

Saying The Times overseas  
Canada \$2.75; Australia & NZ \$5.60;  
Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 14.00;  
Germany DM 1.50; Greece Dr 1.20;  
Greece Dr 300; Holland G 4.00; Israel  
Sheqel 1.00; Italy L 1.00; Japan Yen 100;  
Norway Kr 16.00; Portugal Esc 2.00;  
Sweden Kr 16.00; Switzerland S 2.00;  
Tunisia Dina 1.50; USA \$3.00.

No 64,382

Further falls in RPI predicted

# Lamont hails inflation cut as ERM success

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

**INFLATION** has fallen below 4 per cent and further sharp reductions are on the horizon.

High street shops have responded to lower pay settlements, abundant supplies of seasonal foods and lower spending induced by the recession. The annual increase in the retail prices index fell to 3.9 per cent in June, its lowest for eight months and a sharp decline from May's 4.3 per cent. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, last night attributed the government's success to membership of the European exchange-rate mechanism (ERM).

The underlying inflation rate, which excludes mortgage interest payments, fell even more sharply from 5.3 per cent in May to 4.8 per cent. This is the lowest underlying figure since June 1988 and, the Treasury said, below the comparable European Community average for the first time since 1986.

The full price index dipped briefly to 3.7 per cent in October but increased again

as the big reductions in mortgage rates in the autumn of 1990 dropped out of the annual comparisons. Underlying inflation, excluding mortgages, has remained stubbornly above 5 per cent since Nigel Lawson's economic boom in 1988.

Mr Lamont described the better-than-expected inflation figures as excellent and used them as ammunition against his growing number of critics on the Conservative back benches. He reaffirming his commitment to the ERM in a speech in London to the European Policy Forum, an independent think-tank, billed by Treasury officials as the government's most thorough analysis of its economic strategy since the general election.

"The ERM is helping us to get inflation down and keep it down. That is the only secure route to healthy economic growth and permanently lower unemployment," Mr Lamont said. "Low inflation is vital to Britain's economic prospects. If we want to compete with the best performing economies in the world, we need a rate of inflation at least as low as they have. That is why we joined the ERM."

Turning to critics of the government's policies of linking sterling and interest rates to the German mark, Mr Lamont said that it was an illusion to think that interest rates could be reduced if Britain withdrew from the ERM or devalued sterling.

The government's central objective was to make sure that Britain's inflation performance in the 1990s was even better than in the 1980s. This time growth would not be choked off by a resurgence of inflation, as it was in the late 1980s, he said. ERM membership was designed to provide this long-term guarantee against inflation. It was a policy choice that the government had taken on the basis of what would work best for Britain, not as a "matter of religious faith".

Mr Lamont rejected any suggestions that sterling might be devalued or "re-aligned" against the mark. The ERM had started as a system of "fixed but adjustable" rates but had evolved into a structure where "the emphasis was on 'fixed'". It was the

Leading article, page 17  
Weekending, page 23



Lamont: attacked Tory backbench critics

## Manx death sentence

What will probably be the last death sentence in the United Kingdom for murder was passed by an Isle of Man court yesterday on an apprentice electrician.

The sentence on Tony Teare, found guilty of slitting a girl's throat and leaving her to bleed to death, is expected to be commuted to life imprisonment.....Page 3

## Airbus probe

An investigation of a \$3-billion (£1.57 billion) deal involving 100 aircraft, between Airbus Industrie and United Airlines, is being mounted by the American government.....Page 21

## Clamp query

The activities of private clammers are to be investigated by the government after a barrister uncovered a way motorists could reclaim cars without paying fines to security firms.....Page 20

## Anorexia child

The Court of Appeal, giving reasons for a ruling that an anorexic girl of 16 could undergo specialist treatment against her will, revealed that the court could and must override a child's wishes, if it was deemed in her best medical interests.....Page 5

## Charge words

The Crown Prosecution Service seeking to close a legal loophole which could result in thousands of convictions being quashed, has issued new guidance about the wording of drink-drive charges.....Page 2

## Rabin ready

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister-in-waiting, will control foreign policy and may also fill the defence portfolio in his new government.....Page 12

FAMILIES of the victims of Pan Am flight 103 won their lawsuit against the now defunct airline in New York last night. A jury at the federal court in Brooklyn found Pan Am guilty of "wilful misconduct" because of lax security that allowed a suitcase carrying a bomb on to the New York-bound Boeing 747 that exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988 with the loss of 270 lives.

Damages will be fixed at a later trial and will have to be paid by the bankrupt airline's insurers.

The court's decision dealt a fatal blow to Pan Am's con-

tention that it was not to blame because the bomb was put on the aircraft in Frankfurt as part of a "highly sophisticated act of war waged by terrorists against the entire United States". British and US investigators said the bomb was hidden in a radio cassette recorder inside an unaccompanied suitcase loaded from a connecting flight from Malta.

Dr Jim Swire, a spokesman for the group, said last night: "It is a great victory for our lawyers and for all the relatives. I think it is also a great victory for sanity over aviation security."

The decision came as Miljan Panic, the new Yugoslav prime minister, arrived here

at the same time the WEU will look at ways of opening a land corridor while a fresh security council resolution is expected next week, allowing a broadening of military operations such as the interception of ships.

Frontline hotel, page 14

## In case of emergency, don't call for a doctor

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

IF YOU are going to collapse, it may be thought the best place to do so would be in hospital. But a new study of consultants' skills in giving the kiss of life suggests most people would stand a better chance if found comatose by a passer-by in the street.

Of 24 consultants at Bedford General hospital who volunteered to demonstrate how they would attempt to revive a collapsed patient, 42 per cent performed so poorly they scored zero marks. None was judged "adequate" in giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and compressing the chest, when measured against the standard laid down by the Resuscitation Council of the UK.

The consultants, with an average

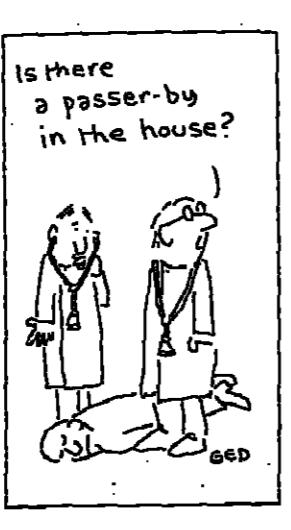
years medical experience, were asked to carry out basic life support, on a manikin laid on the floor, with the help of a non-medical "passer-by". They were scored on a range of factors including the rate of compressions of the chest and whether the breaths given ventilated it properly. But in every case their performance was "extremely poor", according to the authors of the study published in the *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians*.

"What this shows is that if a consultant came across a collapsed person in the street they would be very little better, and may even be worse, than a lay member of the public," said Dr Jeremy Saunders, consultant physician at the Bedford General and one of the authors of the study. "Sometimes a bit of knowledge can be harmful."

Dr Saunders said only half the consultants in the hospital had responded to the invitation to demonstrate their skills but the rest were "unlikely to be better". The level of performance was likely to be the same elsewhere, he said.

In hospitals, junior doctors are mainly involved in resuscitation because they are on the spot when most crises occur. Their performance, however, is little better. A study of 31 newly qualified doctors last year showed that fewer than half were capable of reviving someone who had collapsed effectively.

But there is hope. After two hours training, two thirds of the Bedford General consultants had improved their skills so much they scored maximum marks and none scored zero. Regular refresher courses are needed, the study's authors say.



SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

CHRIS HARRIS



Study in meditation: David Hockney, the painter, a former student of the Royal College of Art, yesterday became an honorary doctor of the college in a ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall in London. He started work in the capital in 1962, and

then moved on to work in Paris and Los Angeles. Mr Hockney led a colourful procession from the Royal College of Art to the Albert Hall, leading other honorary doctors and senior fellows, who included Vivienne Westwood, the designer.

## West to open land corridor for food aid to Sarajevo

FROM MICHAEL BINION IN HELSINKI

THE Western European Union will try to establish a land corridor to bring food supplies to beleaguered Sarajevo. The announcement came yesterday as the WEU and Nato launched a joint naval operation in the Adriatic to enforce United Nations sanctions against Serbia.

John Major said Britain was ready to provide air cover for the land corridor, should it be established, but no ground troops would be committed. Mr Major, however, has expressed great reservations about the feasibility of a corridor. Only two days ago at the G7 summit in Munich he and Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, said there were no firm plans to establish one.

A flotilla of at least five vessels will be deployed as soon as possible to monitor movements into former Yugoslavia. Serbia is reported to be getting oil shipments along the Danube from Romania. Its only other main conduit for outside supplies would be through the port of Bar in Montenegro.

At the same time the WEU will look at ways of opening a land corridor while a fresh security council resolution is expected next week, allowing a broadening of military operations such as the interception of ships.

Unexpectedly in an attempt to avert his country's total isolation, he was refused access to the summit Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, from which Yugoslavia has been suspended, but held talks elsewhere with James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and President Tudjman of Croatia.

His mission surprised everyone and fuelled rumours that Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, was prepared to resign. Officials here said that nothing short of such a move would make any difference to the tightening of the diplomatic and economic noose around Serbia.

After talks with Mr Baker he promised to comply with all UN resolutions, stop the ethnic cleansing and do all he could to stop the fighting. He sidestepped questions about the possible resignation of Mr Milosevic, but compared his position to that of an American

can governor while he [Panic] was like a president.

"He does his job, I do mine. God help him if he gets in my way," Mr Panic declared at a bizarre press conference. He said that he had "the great dream of a little American" to bring peace and respect to his native country, and wanted UN observers in all regions where there was fighting.

Commenting on the decisions by the WEU and Nato, he said he did not want more weapons in the area.

American officials said Mr Baker believed that Mr Panic was not in full control. Mr Baker told him he should stop the fighting, allow humanitarian aid to go on, disband the Serbian forces and bring them under international control. Mr Panic later had talks with Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian foreign minister.

Continued on page 20, col 6

Frontline hotel, page 14



## Private operators 'to lease trains'

BY MICHAEL DYNES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PRIVATE sector rail companies will be able to lease new and used trains under proposals outlined in the government's long-awaited rail privatisation white paper to be published early next week.

Rolling stock leasing agreements, which the government hopes will help encourage private companies to improve the provision of passenger and freight rail services, is part of a package of measures designed to overhaul the structure, ownership, and operation of the national rail network.

Under the new agreements, private rail companies will be able to obtain their own rolling stock from the manufacturers via the banks or financial institutions which have raised the capital to buy them. The technique, which is widely used by continental rail organisations, would enable private rail companies to pay for their trains over a period of years, thereby eliminating the need to shoulder the cost of the entire investment on their balance sheets.

In practice, leasing agreements would help give private passenger and freight operators access to the rolling stock they need to provide new rail services, in much the same way as leasing agreements have enabled new airline companies to provide new services in the liberalised air transport sector.

In practice, however, the effectiveness of rolling stock leasing agreements would depend to a large extent on the length of the franchises for which the trains have been leased to serve. Few private companies would be prepared to lease rolling stock, which could take up to 25 years to pay for, if their service franchise lasted for only five or ten years.

Moreover, very few manufacturers would be prepared to enter the market to make rolling stock available to private operators unless they were guaranteed long or renewable leases or given franchises with rolling stock buy-back clauses. Unlike airlines, much of Britain's rolling stock is built for the particular routes on which it runs, and it therefore cannot be transferred to other routes. Hitherto, ministers have prevented

Continued on page 20, col 3

HAVE THE TIMES  
DELIVERED TO YOUR  
HOME OR OFFICE  
IN FRANCE CONTACT  
M. LEBRUN 11145 07 74 55  
IN BELGIUM CONTACT  
EUROPAIR ASSOCIATES:  
(067) 212 610

50p

TODAY IN  
THE TIMES  
SUNDAY'S  
RAINBOW

Sabbath-black  
clothes have been  
traded for multi-  
coloured leisure wear.  
What does Sunday  
mean now?  
Saturday Review  
Page 10

LITTLE GOLD  
IN ELDORADO



Lynne Truss  
finds the new  
TV soap less  
than sparkling  
Weekend Times  
Page 3

GOLF AND  
THE GREENS



Defenders of the  
British countryside  
cry foul over  
the new fairways  
Weekend Times  
Page 1

LARGER  
MORTGAGE  
SMALLER  
RATE. FROM  
9.99% 10.70% APR\*

Visit your local branch for details, or  
phone us on 0800 555 100 Monday  
to Friday 9.00am - 9.00pm, quoting  
reference S55.

ABBEY  
NATIONAL

The habit of a lifetime

\*This represents Abbey National's rate for borrowers of £100,000+. Secured loans and mortgages require a charge on your property. All loans subject to status and valuation. Loans not available to persons under 18. Written quotations available on request from Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU  
DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS  
ON A MORTGAGES OR OTHER  
LOAN SECURED ON IT.

# Crown acts to close drink-driving loophole



BY RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Crown Prosecution Service acted yesterday to close a loophole in the drink-driving laws after the High Court upheld the acquittal of a man because the standard wording of the charge against him was flawed. It is feared that the ruling could result in thousands of convictions being quashed.

The prosecution service issued fresh guidance to area prosecutors about the wording of drink-drive charges after its appeal against the man's acquittal was denied. As the instructions were issued, the lawyer who spotted the flaw said that up to one hundred people a day had contacted him seeking assis-

tance with claims for compensation. "We expect a flood of further queries because our experience indicates that this practice has occurred throughout the country," Sean Sexton, a Liverpool solicitor, said.

The wording, frequently used by prosecutors and police throughout the country since 1967, is said to be duplicitous because it accuses defendants of breaching either one or two sections of the Road Traffic Act involving drink-driving or being drunk in charge, but not necessarily driving a vehicle.

Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Pill ruled in favour of Terry Corkoran, 43, unemployed from Merseyside, who was acquitted by magistrates at Bootle in January

this year. He had been charged with "failing without reasonable cause to provide a specimen of breath for analysis in the course of an investigation under section four or five of the Road Traffic Act".

The High Court ruled that the charge for refusing a specimen of breath should specify in what circumstances the refusal took place. A spokesman for the prosecution service said: "We have sent out fresh guidance with the High Court judgment to our prosecutors. It tells them that, in drawing up a charge, it must specify the circumstances in which the refusal to provide a specimen of breath took place."

He said that the service had no idea of how many prosecutors and police had

been using the same form of words as Merseyside. He suggested that some areas had been using the correct form but conceded that the service had never thought it necessary to put greater details into the charge as these would be revealed during the court hearing.

Mr Sexton said he believed that police authorities across the country had used a similar wording to that used in Merseyside.

The High Court ruling could mean that at least 100,000 drivers convicted of refusing to give a breath specimen to police in the past 20 years could have their convictions quashed. People convicted of offences have 28 days in which to lodge an appeal. Those who do not

must then apply to the court for leave to appeal.

Mr Sexton said: "Under British law, if someone is not guilty of an offence then they are innocent. And thousands of people have been wrongly convicted."

He said 150 of those querying their convictions had filled in questionnaires supplying further details and all the cases appeared to have been duplicitous. "The court should never have heard these charges." Applications would be made to the appropriate crown court for leave to appeal, he said.

"Obviously some people are going to profit from the decision when they don't deserve it. But that's a failure of the system and now the consequences will have to be met."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Colour copier forger jailed for two years

Attempts by forger to produce bogus banknotes on a sophisticated colour copier succeeded only in producing notes with a Queen's head watermark that bore a better resemblance to Quasimodo. Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday. George Orchard, 59, a self-employed electrician, was sentenced to two and a half years in prison after he admitted turning the garage of his house in Eltham, southeast London, into a base for forging tax discs and licences for heavy goods vehicles.

He also forged dollars and sterling bills, tax discs and licences for heavy goods vehicles. He admitted charges of possessing counterfeit notes, forging documents, handling stolen goods, possessing materials for forgery and fraudulent use of an excise licence. Judge Anwy-Davies told him: "Our national currency must be maintained. The counterfeiting of the currency of the realm is exceedingly serious."

### Bottomley complains

Peter Bottomley, Conservative MP for Eltham, yesterday asked the Press Complaints Commission to adjudicate on whether a story in *The Independent's* Diary column that his son was born three months before he and his wife Virginia, the health secretary, were married breached its code of conduct. Mrs Bottomley said yesterday that the timing of her son's birth in 1967 was "no secret" but that it was a private "family matter". Andrews Whitman Smith, editor of *The Independent*, said the story was in the public interest following Mrs Bottomley's promise earlier this week to curb teenage pregnancies. "I think it's a significant fact worth recording that she was once herself an unwed teenage mother."

### Painting makes £1.4m

Three views of Venice by Canaletto which belonged to the late Jim Joel, the racehorse owner and breeder who died aged 97 in March, made a total of £2.7 million at Christie's in London yesterday. The pictures were in the top five of the firm's £5.2 million end-of-season "Old Master" sale. *The Grand Canal Looking East from the Campo di S. Vito* made £1.4 million and *The Grand Canal Looking North from the Rialto Bridge* went for £990,000, each well above the £800,000 high estimate. The paintings were once in the Bavarian Royal Collection before passing to the Alte Pinakothek Museum in Munich museum, where they were exchanged for other works in 1939. The third Joel picture, a part study composition called *Entrance to the Grand Canal*, sold for £297,000.

### Police to pay damages

A teenager who was unlawfully arrested and assaulted by police was awarded damages yesterday of £13,750 against the chief constables of Humberside and Lincolnshire police forces. Richard Plange, now aged 19, brother of David Plange, the British international rugby league player, was arrested in an assault inquiry during a Scunthorpe Hull City football match three years ago. Grimsby County Court was told. He was taken in a police dog van next to two caged alsatians to a local station for questioning before being handcuffed and driven nine miles to Gainsborough. Throughout questioning he had told police he could not have committed an assault at a village disco because he was in London at the time, but he was held for more than two hours before his alibi was confirmed.

Speaking at a conference organised by the Association of Directors of Social Services yesterday, Dr Mawhinney criticised local authorities for failing to co-operate with the private sector. A recent study showed that the private sector had not been involved or consulted in the preparation of care plans, he said.

"This is obviously a poor starting point for developing the sense of trust and co-operation which must exist. One of the most important opportunities presented by these reforms is the chance to increase choice." Dr Mawhinney warned people not to expect too much too soon. "Benefits will flow from these reforms over a decade. The nature of this policy is fundamentally incremental. April next year will not see a solution to every social services problem," he said.

The task force will be jointly

led by Terry Butler, director of social services for Hampshire County Council, and Andrew Foster, deputy chief executive of the NHS management executive. Over the summer they will appoint a team which will include a GPs, a financial expert and some one from the private sector.

Albert Dryden, the ex-steelworker serving a life sentence for killing Derswicks council's chief planner officer last June, yesterday asked permission in Durham Crown Court for the murder weapon, an Enfield revolver, to be sold. He said he had been offered as much as £20,000 for the gun. His barrister, Mr Ron Mitchell, said the prisoner was not seeking cash for the gun's notoriety value but the "best price in a sale that would be supervised by the police." Mr Justice Waite ordered that the revolver and the rest of his arsenal be destroyed immediately.

### Murder weapon order

Under half of professional adults and one in five is suffering insomnia worrying about making ends meet, according to a Gallup survey published yesterday. The survey of 1,000 people around the country for American Express' personal financial planning arm Acuna shows that money matters during the recession are the most common cause of domestic strife, with 28 per cent afraid of losing their jobs. Under half have made a will and 84 per cent expressed no concern that their families might not be financially secure if they died.

### Antique panel returns

The central panel from a £80,000 baroque altar piece, stolen from the Victoria & Albert Museum, South Kensington, last November, was recovered yesterday from an antique shop in Marylebone. It was spotted by a dealer who, with the gallery owner, contacted the museum and the police. Marjorie Trusted, assistant head of sculpture, later returned it to the museum. "We are delighted and extremely pleased to get it back," Robyn Griffiths-Jones, head of marketing, said.



### How far do you want to go in life?

On the other side of the world there is a new and exciting environment.

An environment with one of the most open economies in the world with a developed and sophisticated business infrastructure.

A country where the quality of life hasn't been forgotten. Golf, tennis, skiing, sailing, or simply sunbathing are all on the doorstep of one of the cleanest, greenest lands left in the world.

If you are interested in living in New Zealand and would like to know how easy and straightforward it is to move there, phone 0891 200 244 for your free information pack.

The new New Zealand  
New Zealand Immigration Service

## Editor of Mail resigns after 21 years to be chairman

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

SIR David English has relinquished the editorship of the *Daily Mail* after 21 years to succeed Lord Rothermere as chairman of Associated Newspapers. He is to be replaced by Paul Dacre, editor of the *Evening Standard*, triggering the biggest reshuffle of editors since newspapers dispersed from Fleet Street.

Simon Jenkins, editor of *The Times*, has also let it be known that he is to stand down by next March as he has long intended. No replacement has yet been found for Mr Jenkins, whose announcement was precipitated by reports that Mr Dacre had been approached about taking over as editor of *The Times*.

In a statement issued to his staff last night, Mr Jenkins said: "It was always my intention to make *The Times* a writer's paper and one for which I wanted to write. When I do stand down, I intend to contribute a regular column and, in consultation with my successor, play a continuing role in the intellectual life of *The Times*. I mean at least to see the paper through the current year. *The Times* is in good shape and good heart and will remain so."

The appointment of a new *Times* editor would have to be ratified by the six independent directors.

In the changes at the *Daily Mail*, Sir David English will retain his post as editor-in-chief, which he has held since 1989. Stewart Steven, editor of *The Mail on Sunday*, becomes editor of the *Evening Standard*, while Jonathan Holbrow, the *Daily Mail* deputy editor, becomes editor of *The Mail on Sunday*. Nick Gordon is also leaving the editorship of *The Mail on Sunday* magazine, *You*, and will be succeeded by Dee Nolan.

Mr Jenkins, a former editor of the *Evening Standard*, said Mr Dacre had done "a wonderful job" and said he was "an admirable successor" to Sir David.

At the end of the two-year period in March, I was asked to stay on. I agreed, but was unwilling to go beyond my years. Mr Murdoch and I accepted that the company



Passing cloud: trees stripped of their leaves in the village of Woodhorn, Northumberland, yesterday after a toxic cloud from an aluminium smelter passed over the area. An investigation is underway into the incident which British Alcan in nearby Lyneham blamed on freak weather conditions. Five days of heavy mist and a "high inci-

dence" of stack fires. Alan Dodds, from Woodhorn, said that leaves were burned off his willow and laburnum trees as well as plants and flowers. Wansbeck council, which ordered the investigation after complaints from 20 people, said the incident was not thought to be a health risk. The trees and plants are expected to recover.

## Osman makes his eighth freedom bid after seven years on remand

COURT for one of the many hearings in the marathon legal battle that has so far prevented his removal from prison gates on Monday for the first time in five years.

Mr Osman, 60, will be taken to the High Court for the hearing of his latest attempt to block moves to extradite him to Hong Kong, where he is wanted on multi-million-dollar fraud charges.

His lawyers, with support from a cross-party group of MPs, will make his eighth application for a writ of *habeas corpus* freeing him from custody on the grounds that the Hong Kong government is continuing to refuse to disclose key documents in the case.

Mr Osman is now in his seventh year on remand at Brixton Prison, but has never before personally gone to



Osman: making first court appearance

## Peers caught in time warp

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

IN THE House of Lords, where time can grind exceedingly slow, it now stands still. The machinations of the Upper House have been put on horological hold by the faulty mechanics of modern timepieces.

All clocks in the Chamber and the Peers' Lobby have stopped at 12 o'clock — peers are unclear whether noon or midnight — at the very moment when the Lords' own clock-keepers are absent.

The large gothic clocks have ticked so reliably since being linked to a central battery supply in 1946 that few attendants knew where to obtain the replacement batteries. An appeal to the Home

Office has located the rare batteries but no time-keeper to fit them. One has just retired and the other is on indefinite sick leave.

Lord Hesketh, government chief whip in the Lords, told peers of the fate of the gothic timepiece that is of the analog variety in the house. He feared that the ghost of Thomas Tompion, the master clockmaker who fashioned the workings of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich in 1676, may have taken belated umbrage at the installation of battery power.

To ensure all is not timeless amid the ethereal atmosphere of the Lords, a replacement will be installed which, Lord Hesketh said, "should ensure that, rather than indicating

### CORRECTION

Our table yesterday on top people's pay should have made clear that it is stipendiary magistrates who are remunerated: lay magistrates receive only modest expenses.

## PUBLIC AUCTION

### ENTIRE INVENTORY OF The Silk Road Trading Centre

on site at the warehouse  
BRAKE SHEAR HOUSE, 164 BARNET HIGH STREET  
(WATCH FOR OUR SIGNS)

UNRESERVED IN A LIQUIDITY CRISIS  
Sunday 12th July at 2.00pm  
on view from 12.00 noon

Under the provisional administration of Marshall & Merriman the doors of The Silk Road Trading Centre will be open to all in order to clear this colossal inventory which has accumulated during the recession.

**Chinese Furniture** - Rosewood, teakwood, Mother-of-pearl inlaid, soapstone inlaid, handpainted, lacquered, carved and smooth surface items including cabinets from very big to very small, dining room suites, screens, chests, nests of tables, hall tables, lamp tables, coffee tables, occasional tables, curio cabinet, chairs, stools, flower stands, planters, mirrors, wall panels, wall plaques, jewellery boxes, Mother-of-Pearl inlaid drinks cabinet, medicine chest, buffet, breakfront cabinet, blanket chest, document chest, hat box, bookcase, trays.

**Porcelain** - Vases ranging from 6 inches to 6 foot in size. melon jars, temple jars, umbrella stands, platters, planters, ginger jars, lantern jars, garden stools, goldfish bowls, ewers, figures in blue and white as well as multi coloured items in floral and pictorial designs.

**Cloisonne** - Vases, clocks, jars, pill boxes and pen holders

**Bronzes** - In the classical, 19th century European and art deco styles including life size figurines right down to mantelpiece ornaments

**Chinese, Persian and Eastern Carpets, rugs and runners**

Highly decorative carpets, rugs and runners including nomadic tribal pieces as well as village and more sophisticated city weaves. Sizes range from small scatter rugs up to extra large and all sizes in between. Colours include traditional and unusual. Plus collectors silk investment rugs.

**Parking:** Ample free parking in the area.  
**Refreshments:** Self service tea and coffee  
**Shipping facilities:** for overseas buyers  
**Terms:** Cash, cheque, credit card

**Auctioneers:** Marshall and Merriman & Associates  
28a Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, London NW3 1NH  
Tel: 071-794 7789 Fax: 071-435 2561

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

## Manx court passes death sentence on woman's killer

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A COURT in the Isle of Man yesterday passed what will probably be the United Kingdom's last death sentence for murder when an apprentice electrician was found guilty of slitting a young woman's throat and leaving her to bleed to death.

There was silence in the Court of General Gaol in Douglas as the judge, Deemster Callow, read the traditional words of the death sentence to Tony Teare, 22, of Ramsey, on the northeast of the island, for the murder of Corrine Bentley, also 22. He said: "The sentence of the court is that you will be taken from this place to the Isle of Man jail and thence to a place of execution, and there you will be hanged by the neck until you are dead and your body buried in the jail or some other place as shall be decided by the court." He did not don a black cap to pass the sentence.

The island is the only part of the United Kingdom where the death penalty is mandatory for murder, but it is expected that Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, will

recommend that the Queen exercise the royal prerogative of mercy to commute the sentence to life imprisonment.

Teare has 28 days in which to appeal. The Home Office said: "If the sentence is upheld, it will then be referred to the home secretary who, in the past, has always recommended to the Queen that it should be commuted to life imprisonment."

In the past week, the Home Office has received from the island's parliament a draft bill to abolish the death penalty. The penalty for murder was abolished in Britain in 1965 and in Jersey in 1986. The last time it was imposed for murder in the Isle of Man was in 1983. The sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. The last execution on the island took place in 1872.

The death penalty still exists in England and Wales for treason, certain offences under the Armed Forces Act and for piracy. In Scotland, it exists for treason, breaches of armed forces law but not piracy. In Northern Ireland,

jealous rage by Michelle Taylor, who was Mrs Shaughnessy's mistress, and her sister.

In a statement read to the court by the deputy prosecution counsel, Joanna Kerner, Michelle Taylor said that she became hysterical when she found Mrs Shaughnessy's body. She said that she gave John Shaughnessy a lift home after they stayed late arranging flowers at the Churchill Clinic where they worked on June 3. When they arrived at his home in Varden Road she decided to go in to have a chat with his wife.

"As they entered, Mr Shaughnessy noticed the deadlock on the front door—which, his wife always kept secure—was not locked. Inside, she said, he suddenly shouted: 'Alison! Alison!'

The statement continued: "I ran up the stairs and saw Alison lying at the top of the stairs. She was still and had blood in her mouth." Apart from the body, everything seemed normal in the flat. None of the windows were open.

The court was told that police had asked Michelle Taylor if she knew whether Mr Shaughnessy had or was having any extramarital affairs. She allegedly said that two months earlier, Mrs Shaughnessy told her about a former girl friend called Natalie, who was in Ireland and had telephoned him which caused arguments. Police said she claimed Mr Shaughnessy had also visited a woman called Katie, who she believed was a girl friend, in the United States.

Mr Finlay said he and his friend Roger Nichols went upstairs and found the body. "She looked as if she had fallen wedged in the doorframe," he said. "Mr Nichols felt her neck for a pulse. He said he thought her throat had been cut. She looked pretty dead to him."

The prosecution claims that Mrs Shaughnessy, 21, was stabbed 54 times in a

THE SUNDAY TIMES

### The Goebbels diaries



I walk for a long time up and down the terrace with the Fuhrer. He is wonderfully relaxed and liberated. A clear star-clustered sky hangs above us. He enthuses about the great, great future... Hitler's Minister for Propaganda September 1938

Only The Sunday Times has decoded the complete hand-written diaries. Don't miss the exclusive extracts, tomorrow

## Giotto closes on comet

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

EUROPEAN space scientists were jubilant yesterday at the results of a close encounter between the spacecraft Giotto and the comet Grigg-Skjellerup 130,000 miles above the Earth.

"It's been a great success—the encounter has exceeded all expectations," said a member of the team from University College London whose plasma analyser was the first instrument to detect the comet six hours before the closest approach. The instrument was able to detect highly ionised particles coming from the tail of the comet and to make measurements of the interaction between the tail and the solar wind—particles flowing outwards from the Sun.

The other British experiment on board, a system for detecting the impact of dust particles designed by scientists from the University of Kent, also made some good observations shortly after the closest approach, which is believed to have taken Giotto within 125 miles of the comet's nucleus at 4.31pm yesterday.

Six years ago, Giotto made a close approach to Halley's Comet, during which its camera was damaged. As a result there were no live pictures from yesterday's en-

counter, but plasma, radio wave, optical and dust data were collected. The team at the control centre of the European Space Agency in Darmstadt in Germany declared the results highly satisfactory.

"We got some excellent data and the fascinating thing is that it is so different from the data from Halley," Dr Alan Johnson from University College London said. The evidence suggests that Grigg-Skjellerup, which is

older than Halley, was surrounded by more gas and finer dust particles.

The hope now is that Giotto, built by British Aerospace for a single mission, might be able to take a look at a third comet if the instruments have survived and there is enough fuel left. The spacecraft would be pushed into a new orbit for several years of hibernation until another comet is located for it to study.

STAGE fright haunts even the most successful actors. Laurence Olivier suffered so badly that he had to instruct his fellow actors not to look him in the eyes on stage and Derek Jacobi had to give up live performances when he was struck by fear.

But there is no record of professionals getting the kind of service that 300 young actors taking part in next week's Lloyds Theatre Challenge are being offered: an agony aunt on 24-hour call. Hester Damaris, a psychotherapist who is used by film and media companies as an actors' counsellor, has been hired by the National Theatre to be on call throughout the three day event at the Olivier Theatre in case of any health-threatening attacks of first-night nerves.

Suzi Graham Adriani, producer of the event for the past three years, said: "It's hard to understand how traumatised it can be to appear on the stage of the Olivier. Hardened professionals quail."

"These youngsters, aged from 11 to 19, arrive in the morning, have two hours' technical rehearsal, and then they're on. It can be the most terrifying thing they've ever experienced."

## Therapist offers cure for first-night nerves

BY SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

STAGE fright haunts even the most successful actors. Laurence Olivier suffered so badly that he had to instruct his fellow actors not to look him in the eyes on stage and Derek Jacobi had to give up live performances when he was struck by fear.

But there is no record of professionals getting the kind of service that 300 young actors taking part in next week's Lloyds Theatre Challenge are being offered: an agony aunt on 24-hour call.

Hester Damaris, a psychotherapist who is used by film and media companies as an actors' counsellor, has been hired by the National Theatre to be on call throughout the three day event at the Olivier Theatre in case of any health-threatening attacks of first-night nerves.

Suzi Graham Adriani, producer of the event for the past three years, said: "It's hard to understand how traumatised it can be to appear on the stage of the Olivier. Hardened professionals quail."

"These youngsters, aged from 11 to 19, arrive in the morning, have two hours' technical rehearsal, and then they're on. It can be the most terrifying thing they've ever experienced."

Theatre guide  
L&T section, page 2



Returning to sender: Terry Waite and Joy Brodier meeting yesterday under the Bunyan window

## Waite meets sender of Bunyan postard

Terry Waite yesterday met the woman whose postcard of John Bunyan, author of *Pilgrim's Progress*, inspired him during his five-year captivity.

Mr Waite warmly embraced Joy Brodier before the stained glass window in the Bunyan Meeting House in Beford depicting Bunyan in his prison cell. For a moment, the former Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy gazed at the window.

As he kissed Mrs Brodier on the cheek and cradled her four-month-old baby Rachel in his arms, he said: "It is marvellous to be here. It's something I wanted to do for a number of months. It means a lot, not only for what Joy did in sending the card but she also represents a lot of people all over the world who send cards to the hostages and did not forget them."

Mrs Brodier, 38, a former teacher,

was watching television when Mr Waite returned from Beirut last November and recalled her postcard in a moving speech at RAF Lyneham in Wiltshire. "I could not believe it," she said. "I was not sure at first it was my card that got to him because so many people must have sent them, but then it turned out it was."

Mr Waite, looking fit and in good spirits and accompanied by his wife Frances, recalled the day his guard brought him the 15p postcard as he sat blindfolded and chained to the wall of his cell. "He was very surprised. He could not understand how complete strangers would send a card or cards to those of us who were held hostage."

"I looked at this card so often. I was given a Bible and I kept it in the Bible. I thought I must at all cost remember the name of the person who sent it so

when I got out I would be able to contact them."

"Then of course the card was taken. One morning I had been to the bathroom. I came back and my room had been searched." Turning to Mrs Brodier, he said: "Your card had gone and I never saw it again."

Mrs Brodier has since sent him another card showing the same window and carrying the same message. It is framed in Mr Waite's home.

Mr Waite, who is working on his memoirs, used the meeting to launch a £1 million appeal for the charity Y Care International which he founded eight years ago to look after young people worldwide. All proceeds will be divided between Y Care and Amnesty International, responsible for a letter-writing campaign to prisoners and hostages.

## Customs seize 20,000 disposable lighters

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH customs officers have seized more than 20,000 disposable cigarette lighters in an attempt to halt smuggling. They are concerned that smugglers are trying to flood the market before the current duty system is dismantled.

According to Scottish customs yesterday, the raids were carried out on retailers selling lighters at well below the market price. Lighters worth £10,000 were taken from shops in Glasgow, the west coast and Western Isles.

Detectors suspect the IRA is smuggling lighters to raise cash. Millions may be in store in the Irish Republic ready to be smuggled into Britain via the province. The IRA could be profiting by charging a toll for cross-border smuggling or by moving the fighters to British distributors.

Few countries in Europe now charge tax on lighters. Bought from continental manufacturers at little more

than 20p each, the lighters can be sold in Britain at two or three for £1 and undercut genuine imports, which have to pay 50p duty and 17.5 per cent VAT per lighter.

It is believed that up to 20 million lighters a year are being smuggled into Britain at a loss of £15 million in taxes. This year's Budget announced that the duty will stop at the end of the year. The delay has meant that the Treasury has given smugglers a period of grace to get rid of their stocks.

THERE  
IS ONLY ONE  
KITCHEN  
SALE.

In the Fitted Kitchen Department on the Second Floor there are substantial reductions on Bosch Kitchens. REDUCED  
Eg. Bosch high gloss lacquered range ..... 15%  
Bosch white laminate range ..... 15%  
Bosch yew wood range ..... 15%  
A complete sales and installation service is available from our in-store design consultants.

Opening Hours: Today 9am to 6pm.  
Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm.  
Wednesdays 10am to 8pm.

All reductions are from Harrods Usual Prices.  
Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL.  
Telephone 071-730 1234.



Subject to availability. Personal shoppers only.

## Top Yard officer faces charges

BY STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND Yard officers and lawyers are this weekend making final preparations for the start next week of a unique independent hearing into allegations involving the most senior Yard officer ever to face disciplinary charges.

After 18 months of investigation and discussion, Wyn Jones, the assistant commissioner in charge of personnel and training at the Yard, faces allegations of a course of conduct which could be regarded as incompatible with his rank. The allegations centre on the use of a police car and launch and two trips abroad in 1989-90.

The case has caused division within the Yard while Mr Jones, who earns £63,798 a year, has been on leave for more than a year awaiting decisions on his future. The allegations against him were investigated by Peter Nobbs, chief constable of West Yorkshire, and his work will provide the basis of the hearing before Jeremy Gompertz, QC, who will be advised by James Brownlow, a former chief constable of South Yorkshire and an inspector of constabulary.

The tribunal is unique because Mr Jones is not subject to the normal police discipline code. As an assistant commissioner he holds his warrant of office direct from the Queen, which places him in status somewhere between the police service and the civil service. The tribunal was especially created to look at the case and Mr Jones, who will strongly deny the charges, agreed to put his case to it. It is expected to be held in private rooms in central London to underline its independence from normal police practice.

Mr Jones will be represented by a QC and the case against him will be put by another senior counsel in private hearings expected to last three weeks. The report of the tribunal will be given to Sir Peter Imbert, the commissioner of the Metropolitan police, who will then pass it to the Home Office.

According to friends of Mr Jones, the allegations involve the use of an official car and driver for two trips Mr Jones made outside London to Redruth, Cornwall, and Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, to support the Metropolitan police's rugby team. Mr Jones was and is president of the force club. The allegation about the launch involves the use of the boat for a trip with a former police officer to the Isle of Dogs. The two trips abroad involve one to an international police conference at Lyons and arrangements for a trip to Moscow.

Gover  
Charity  
for was  
judges  
why an  
must be

Cardinal Hu  
lonely life of

## WHAT FRENCH ROAD EQUIPMENT?



LAND ROVER DISCOVERY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT LAND ROVER ADMINISTRATION, THE GREEN TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX, TW2 5AB OR TELEPHONE: 081 894 4444 (DURING OFFICE HOURS)

Government accused of incompetence in failing to make thousands of properties available to the homeless

JOHN MANNING

## Charity blames Whitehall for wasting empty houses

A HOUSING charity has accused the government of having a shameful record in making use of empty residential property when a record number of people are homeless.

The Empty Homes Agency, which is partly funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, was set up in February to work for the occupation of more empty homes. It has uncovered incompetence in government departments and a failure to use their buildings for the homeless. The worst offenders are the Ministry of Defence, which has 10,000 empty married quarters, about 14 per cent of its housing stock, and the health department, which has about 14,000 empty units (about 16 per cent).

Poor record keeping by the departments makes it difficult to estimate exact percentages, the agency says. It calculates that an extra 10,000 homes could be made available.

The homes are empty either because they are surplus or because redevelopment or refurbishment is pending. But they could be used for short-term lettings, which was recommended by the government in a guidance note to departments earlier this year.

Bob Lawrence, an executive from the agency, says:

"We have tracked down 91 dwellings in three locations, all empty for more than three years. In all three cases, relevant interested parties have offered to rent but the government departments offer a range of reasons for their inactivity."

Typical excuses for homes lying vacant for up to four years are that the department plans to sell a building, that it might not get vacant possession or

that the buildings are not surplus to requirements. Mr Lawrence says: "One example is a building in Stillington Street, south-west London. The 48 two and three-bedroom flats in the 1930s block in a quiet street were once used by servicemen but have been empty for three years."

The MoD was offered rent of £135,000 a year for the block in February by a housing association, but turned it down, saying that the buildings were not surplus.

Nearly six months later, very little work has been done and the flats still stand empty. Issue, a magazine edited by homeless people, will report on the case next month.

The ministry said: "A major refurbishment is nearing completion. We expect to have people in the flats by 1993. We do occasionally lease to housing associations and councils, but the MoD does not exist to provide housing for the community but for the MoD."



No vacancies: the two housing blocks near Charlwood, Surrey. Councils offered to lease them three years ago, but they remain empty

## Lease refused as bill rises for bed and breakfast

THE defence ministry owns 16 empty three-bedroom houses in Padstow, Cornwall. They are virtually unsaleable, but the ministry refuses to lease them to North Cornwall District Council, which has to pay £2,000 a week to house

12 families in bed and breakfasts. Half the houses have been empty for more than three years. They are made of reinforced concrete, have a defective design and no lender in the area will advance a loan. The ministry remains confident that

they will be sold by the end of the financial year.

Near Charlwood, Surrey, two housing blocks near a disused hospital have been empty for years. In 1989 two district councils contacted the regional health authority

about leasing each property for £5,000 to house the homeless. They

were told that the properties were

going to be redeveloped and that

the authority did not want to lose

control of them for more than a

year. They are still empty.

## Judges explain why anorexic must be treated

BY ALISON ROBERTS

TEENAGERS between the ages of 16 and 18 can be legally forced to accept medical treatment without their consent, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

Giving the reasons for their judgment ordering a 16-year-old anorexic girl, known as J, to undergo specialist treatment against her will, the judges said that the court could and must override a child's wishes if it was deemed to be in their best medical interests.

Lord Donaldson, of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, said that the welfare of young people was paramount, and that that involved "giving them the maximum degree of decision-making that is prudent". However, in the case of "J", the anorexic girl, the deterioration in her health led to the judgment against her.

"It was the change of circumstances which led me, in making the emergency order, to say that J's wishes were no longer of weight," Lord Donaldson said. "At that stage they were completely outweighed by the threat of irreparable damage to her health and risk to her life."

On June 30, the judges were told that J had not eaten for nine days, had lost 8lbs in 14 days and weighed 5st 7lbs although 5ft 7in tall. She was in danger of suffering irreversible damage to her brain and reproductive system.

Lord Donaldson said that anorexia sometimes destroyed the ability of a sufferer to make a rational decision and Lord Justice Nolan said that the court had an inescapable responsibility to override J's wishes.

"In considering the welfare of the child, the court must not only recognise but if necessary defend the right of a child having sufficient understanding to take an informed decision to make his or her own choice," he said. "In the area of medical treatment, however, the court can intervene." The principle of con-

## Cardinal Hume regrets lonely life of celibacy

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CARDINAL Basil Hume has described the regrets and the longing he has suffered because he has been unable to marry. "Deep down we remain human, very human and we have all the desires to love and be loved by one other person," he said.

Speaking on BBC Radio Two's *Good Morning Sunday*, to be broadcast tomorrow, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster said: "I think it is very important to realise that people who choose to be celibate do so not because they have any opposition to marriage. We do it because we feel called to that way of life, called to the obligations which follow from being celibate."

"Every time I did a marriage, every time I see people married I say: 'That could have been me. So I think a successful celibate has to re-

sign rather than persuasion enshrined in yesterday's ruling undermines the 1969 Family Law Reform Act which gave teenagers over 16 and under 18 the right to refuse medical or dental treatment. Ian Kennedy, professor of medical law and ethics at King's College, London, said that the wide ranging ruling was to be regretted.

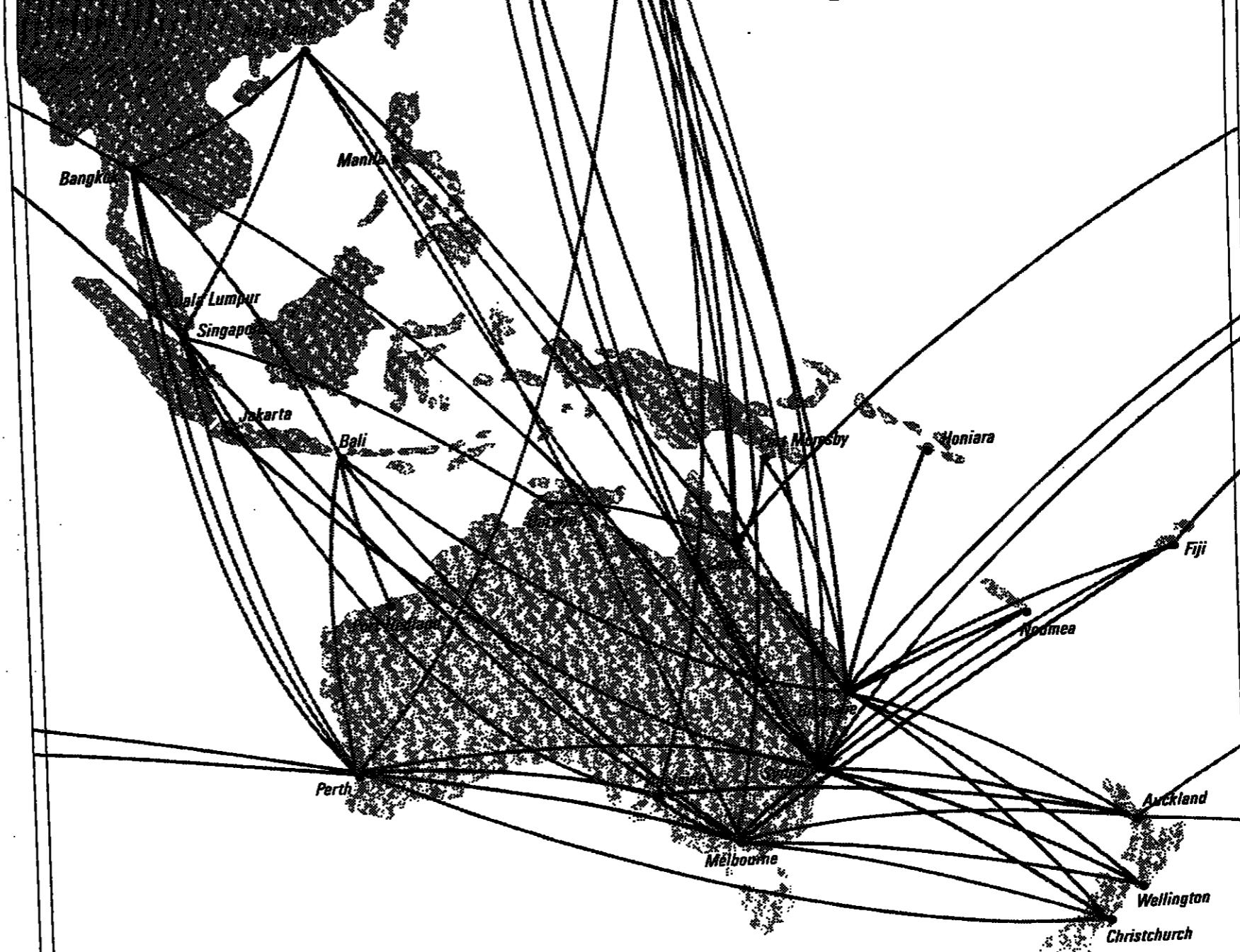
The judges could have limited it to this particular case and these particular circumstances but they have chosen to make a wide ranging examination of adolescents' rights and really subject them to wishes of parents and doctors," he said. "It will undermine the sense of emerging citizenship in adolescents."

Professor Kennedy said that the ruling would lead to a diminution of an adolescent's right to control his or her body. "They are really saying until you reach 18 your saying no to treatment is only good if the doctors agree with you."

That the ruling could lead to abortions being carried out without the consent of 16 or 17-year-olds, Lord Donaldson said: "Whilst this may be possible as a matter of law, I do not see any likelihood, taking account of medical ethics, unless abortion was truly in the best interests of the child."

As lawyers were refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords, Lord Donaldson said that allowing an appeal would imply doubt as to whether the initial order had been rightly made and would send the wrong message to J. "We do not think that would be in her best medical interests," J can still apply to Law Lords for leave to appeal.

When the case came to the High Court, J emphasised that she did not want to get better and that there was no reason or motive for her to get better. Above all, she wanted to retain the control which has now been denied her.



We've been flying long-haul for longer than any other airline. It's our experience which makes your experience of flying with us so pleasurable. We fly the very latest 747-400's from London and Manchester to over 30 destinations in Australia and Asia. More than any other airline. More often. For details of our fares and schedules to Asia or Australia, call 0345 747 767, or contact your travel agent.

**QANTAS**

BALI AND JAKARTA EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1992

W E G O F U R T H E R

anchester to 00. s is a city of with Chinese communities or another. tourism. It left by the ring, but it's emming the seaside jies." staway from towards the h Wales and the region tractions in trighton, the arin, Mere islands and Pilkington St. Helens, and Croxeth which alone's a year.

**BE THE ONES THAT GOT AWAY.**



Vauxhall welcomes back escapism. Get away from the city. Get away from the jams. Get away from the roads even, with the new Vauxhall Frontera Estate.

It's a 5 door, long-wheelbase 4x4, boasting sleek, contemporary styling, coupled with engineering to handle the roughest terrain.

Autocar & Motor's description was a little more muscular. "A big Estate," it called it "with macho styling."

And one, according to Car Magazine, that "Performs its off-road duty with aplomb".

It comes with a choice of either a fuel-injected 2.4 litre petrol engine with catalytic converter, or a 2.3 litre turbocharged and intercooled diesel engine.

While the transmission is handled by a selectable 4x4 (high and low ratios) and a 5-speed gearbox.

Inside, as you would expect from Vauxhall, you definitely won't have to rough it.

Its lengthy list of standard equipment includes a tilt removable glass sunroof, speed sensitive power steering and electric windows.

At an on-the-road, recommended price of £15,885 for the 2.4i and £16,930 for the 2.3TD, the Frontera Estate really is amazing value.

For once, your local Vauxhall dealer will be only too happy to let you escape from the showroom. For more details call 0800 444200 or 0582 427200.

For further information, please return to: **Vanham-Frontier** Freepost  
**PO Box 35, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4BR**

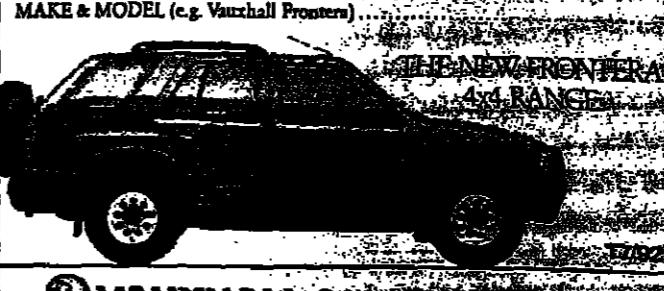
ADDRESS..... POSTCODE.....

**CURRENT CAR DETAILS: Year of Registration (c. 1990)**

MAKE & MODEL (e.g. Vauxhall Prointers).....

THE NEW PRIMED ALUMINUM

THE WILLYS JEEP  
4x4 RANGE



VAUXHALL ONE-STOP-DEALERS

Want to know more about the Vegetable map? See *A: The Vegetable Map of the World* in the *Index*.

## Orangemen 'worse than cannibals'

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Northern Ireland secretary yesterday denounced the behaviour of some Orangemen during a march in Belfast, which he said would have disgraced a tribe of cannibals.

Sir Patrick Mayhew's unusually outspoken comments come as the province braces itself for the annual Twelfth demonstrations this weekend when Protestants march at scores of rallies across Northern Ireland, to the irritation of many Roman Catholics.

This year the demonstrations got off to a particularly bad start with a big Orange parade up the predominantly Catholic Ormeau Road in central Belfast on Wednesday night, which passed a bookmaker's shop where five Catholics were shot dead by the Ulster Freedom Fighters in February.

An attempt at the High Court by nationalists to have the parade re-routed to avoid the bookmakers failed. In the event, members of some bands in the parade, which was organised by the Orange Order, took the opportunity to exchange insults with local Catholics as they passed the shop. One woman seemed to dance as she passed the scene of the massacre and marchers chanted "UFF" and "f---n".

The behaviour of the marchers has prompted strong criticism from politicians on both sides of the sectarian divide and from churchmen. Sir Patrick said that while people had a right

## Army officer who launched a legend

The cult of the Volkswagen Beetle might never have developed had it not been for British engineers, Kevin Eason reports

WHEN Major Ivan Hirst picked his way through the ashes of the factory built to assemble Hitler's "people's car", he had no idea he was about to take part in the making of a legend.

Major Hirst, a young officer in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, was sent to Wolfsburg in August 1945 to build the car personally approved by the Führer but which did not have the chance to reach the production lines because of the outbreak of war.

He led a small British team that reorganised the factory's workforce and put the car, called the Volkswagen and later to be known as the Beetle, back onto the assembly lines. Forty-seven

sign languished while the Wolfsburg factory rebuilt aircraft and made heating stoves for the Russian front during the war.

The car had been seen by British officers at the 1938 Berlin Motor Show and the post-war military government decided to restart the Volkswagen project. Major Hirst was running the central tank depot in Belgium when he transferred to Wolfsburg to discover a factory almost demolished by British and American bombers. The team first decided what equipment could be salvaged.

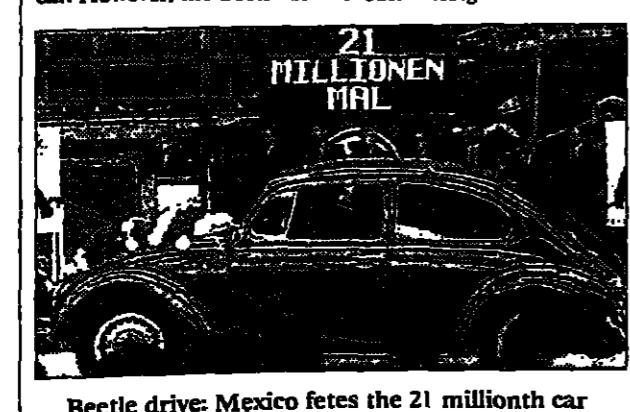
Now aged 76 and living in West Yorkshire, Major Hirst remembered his first coup in finding a prototype, painting it dark green and sending it to the British occupying forces to test. They ordered 20,000. Orders followed from the Americans and French and by March 1946, the factory was making 1,000 cars a month. "It seemed a good little car," Major Hirst said. "I first saw one in 1944 and we stripped it down to have a look. I thought it had a chance."

The hunched body, which gave rise to the Beetle nickname, and the car's simplicity and reliability caught not only the imagination but eased the worries of drivers more used to cars which spent more time broken down in laybys than on the road. More than 424,000 were sold in Britain, one of 140 countries importing it.

By the 1960s, the Beetle had achieved cult status. It was decorated with floral designs by hippies and turned into a convertible by the smart set. It earned such devotion that Jonathan Bennett, a Volkswagen fanatic from Weymouth, Dorset, changed his name to Mr Volkswagen Beetle.

There are businesses such as Oceanair of Highgate, north London, still importing Beetles, not only for enthusiasts but for drivers looking for a model different from the current "jelly mould" designs.

The Beetle was designed by Dr Ferdinand Porsche, who gave Hitler a test drive in 1938. The Führer was so impressed that he proclaimed it to be the people's car. However, the Beetle de-



Beetle drive: Mexico fêtes the 21 millionth car

## Daisies wanted for HIV research

BY PAUL WILKINSON

CHILDREN in Bradford, West Yorkshire, have been asked to collect two billion daisy leaves in a project that could produce a new treatment for Aids. The leaves are thought to contain a chemical with similar properties to one used to delay the onset of the disease in HIV carriers.

The chemical is present in such minute quantities that 10 bin liners full will produce just one gram of the extract. Researchers at the Bradford Royal Infirmary, who stumbled on its properties by accident, have appealed to the children to gather enough leaves for them to carry out a more detailed examination.

Monday has been declared Daisy Day, when the children are asked to bring their collections to the hospital. If they reach the target of two billion leaves, scientists will have about 20 grams of extract on which to work.

Emile Morgan, a consultant genito-urinary physician at St Luke's Hospital, Bradford, who specialises in treating Aids patients, said: "It is



Daisy chain: Sacka Rashid, 10, collecting for Monday's Daisy Day. Scientists are hoping for two billion leaves

not a miracle cure but it is helping to educate young people about Aids. When my patients ask me, 'Why should I go on living?' I can show them that things are happening and that the community is working to help them."

Dr Morgan, who is assisting

the team from the royal infirmary, said that scientists in America discovered a chemical called castanospermine in certain tropical plants about four years ago which had a similar effect to AZT, used to delay the start of Aids. It attacks the virus, preventing it from splitting and growing.

The rarity of the plants made the treatment prohibitively expensive. The Bradford researchers were working on a different project, testing up to 100 common plants for their toxic

effect on animals, when they found the similar characteristics of the daisy-leaf extract.

"The prospects are enormous if this works out," Dr Morgan said. "Instead of a rare plant, we have a common weed which people are desperate to get rid of."

## TV teaches children about Aids

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

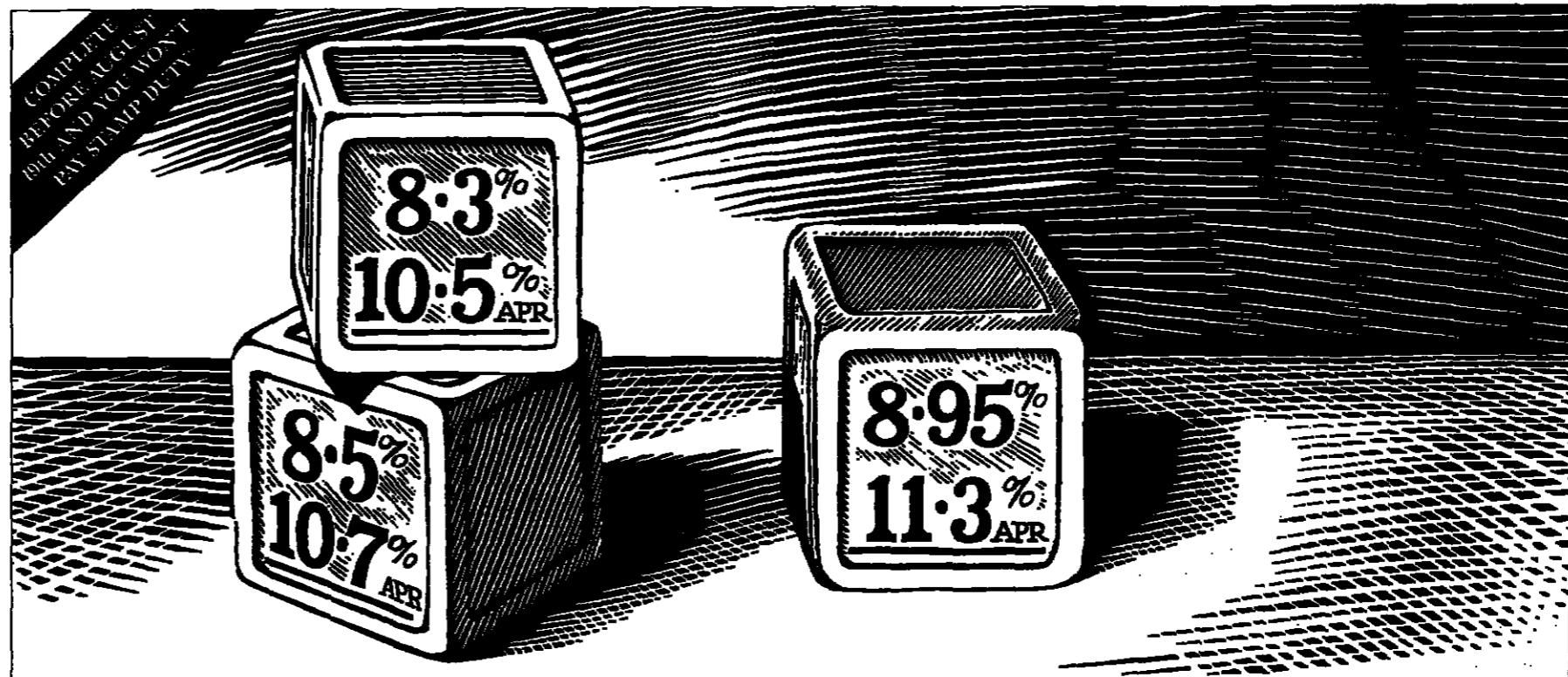
PARENTS were urged to press school governors to increase and improve schoolroom Aids education yesterday after the publication of a survey showing that 70 per cent of 11-year-olds first heard about the condition from television.

Barnardo's, the children's charity, found that children know about HIV and Aids from as young as eight but that their knowledge was "patchy and punctuated by worry". The charity interviewed 524 youngsters aged 11 to 13.

"It's no longer a question of parents asking whether or when to tell their children because their children already know about Aids from soaps like *EastEnders* or the news. Rather, it is about how they should find out and what they should be told," Gareth Richards of Barnardo's said.

One in ten of the children interviewed said they had learned about HIV or Aids from their parents or teachers. But most understand much more than most parents may have assumed.

# MORE OF OUR FIRST TIME BUYERS ARE NOW UNDER 25.



With our new lower mortgage base rate, there's no better place to go than the Halifax, if you're about to buy your very first home.

We're now offering first time buyers our lowest rates in over twenty years.

As low as 8.3%, 10.5% APR as the chart shows. What's more, our endowment mortgages are backed by Standard Life, who consistently offer the best performing 25 year policies\* in the UK.

And with stamp duty suspended at present, it means now is an excellent time

### NEW LOWER FIRST TIME BUYER RATES

LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90%\*\*

£100,000 and over 8.3% 10.5% APR

£50,000 - £99,995 8.5% 10.7% APR

Up to £50,000 8.95% 11.3% APR

LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95%\*\*

£100,000 and over 8.8% 10.6% APR

£50,000 - £99,995 9.0% 10.9% APR

Up to £50,000 9.45% 11.3% APR

\*BASED ON THE LOWER OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OR VALUATION

to get on to the home owning ladder.

Even if you haven't yet found your ideal home, our Mortgage Certificates can reassure you that the money is available, for when you eventually do.

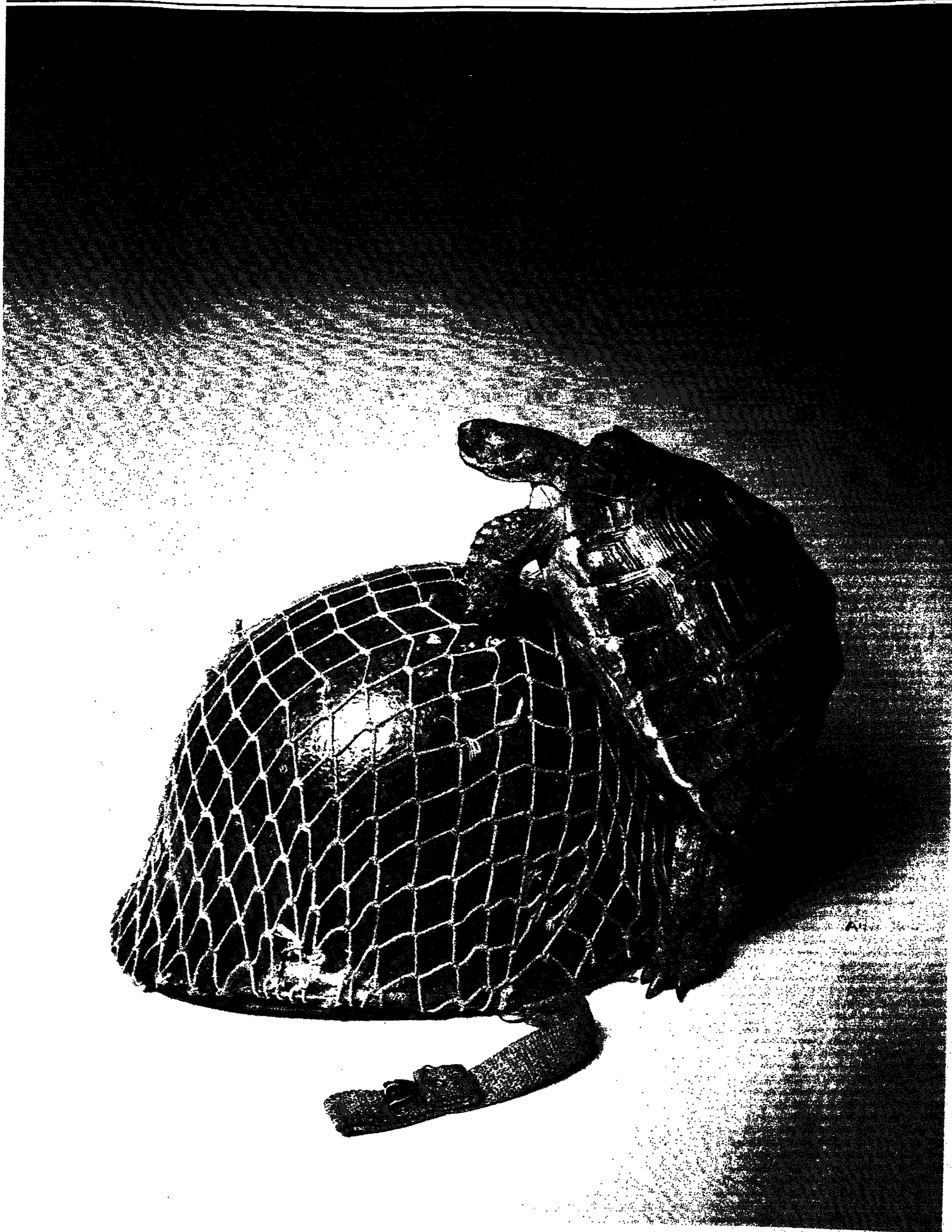
For more details, call into your nearest branch of Halifax Building Society.

You can be sure of an excellent mortgage rate and the guarantee that you won't be treated like a child.

HALIFAX

Get a little extra help.

TRIMMED NO 1 EACH YEAR FROM 1990 TO 1991. 8.3% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.5% IS FUTURE PERFORMANCE. FOR LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.5% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.7% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.95% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 95% APR A 2% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.0% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.9% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 9.45% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 11.3% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. LOANS NOT EXCEEDING 90% APR A 1.75% DISCOUNT IS GUARANTEED UNTIL 31/12/92. ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS APPLICABLE TO LOANS OF £50,000 AND OVER AND £100,000 AND OVER APR. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 8.8% IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE. FAIR PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARY. 10.6% APR IS THE MANAGEMENT RATE, WITH PAYING CHARGE.



## Compatibility is never a problem with Apple Macintosh.

Finding the right partner can be one of life's more painful experiences.

But not if your name's Apple™ Macintosh. We're compatible with absolutely everything.

We work with other personal computers, host systems and their networks.

We can import and use MS-DOS® files, run industry-standard programs such as WordPerfect® and Lotus® 1-2-3®, and even run programs written in MS-DOS.

On top of all that, Apple Macintosh is renowned as the easiest personal computer in the world to use. Millions of people are more productive as a result and they find everyday tasks more enjoyable.

In fact, whatever type of work you do, and whether you're a dab hand or a novice in the field of personal computers, there's one thing you can be absolutely sure of.

Apple Macintosh is the perfect match.

To find out why Apple Macintosh is the perfect match for you, dial 100 and ask for Freefone Apple or return this coupon. Post to Naomi Lennon, Customer Care Administrator, Apple Computer U.K. Limited, FREEPOST, Information Centre, London SW15 2YV, making sure you include your postcode.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nature of Business \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

 Apple™ Macintosh™ The power to succeed.

## Blundering attempt to gag Winterton imperils more Tories

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE introduction of a rule, devised by Conservative whips to gag a maverick MP, continued to backfire yesterday as the fate of a further tranche of senior Tory MPs on Commons select committees was thrown into doubt.

In the latest twist to the great Westminster conspiracy, which now bears all the hallmarks of a "cock-up", the resignations of Patrick Cormack, Robert Adley and Barry Porter from Commons committees were demanded because they breached the "new blood" rule stating that no Tory MP should serve on a committee for more than three parliaments.

MPs fear that exposing the extent to which committees are manipulated by the Tory whips has cast a cloud over the independence of the select committee system, created in 1979 to keep a check on government departments. In addition, the Tory whips face the unpalatable prospect of a growing number of present and former committee MPs aggrieved about their treatment, simmering on the back benches when the government's majority is only 21.

The state of barely subdued fury on the back benches will become clear on Monday night when the Commons debates the nominations.

The new, unwritten rule to bar long-serving committee members was used by the whips, and accepted by the

committees of selection this week, to block the re-election of Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, to the health committee, which he chaired in the last Parliament. His parliamentary "sin" was to criticise the government's health reforms and to occasionally disobey the "whip". Peter Fry, Sir Ivan Lawrence, Terence Higgins and Harry Greenway, whose loyalty was not questioned, fell victim to the rule.

Mr Higgins went out of his own accord; the others did not. Labour whips have not used the same device. The original Commons procedure committee report in 1977 envisaged the committee system as providing an "alternative career structure" for back-benchers who did not want to how-how to whips to climb the ministerial ladder. No mention was made of a bar on long-serving members.

The Tory whips failed to check other MPs caught by the rule. On Thursday night, they had to "persuade" Sir John Wheeler, former chairman of the home affairs committee, to resign.

In a Commons motion yesterday, Mr Winterton, backed by the Labour MPs Frank Field and Audrey Wise, listed other MPs who have been nominated to committees but were missed by the whips. Apart from six long-serving Labour MPs, it also mentions Messrs Cor-

mack, Porter and Adley. The saga is making and breaking a score of political reputations. The cast of characters is headed by:

□ Nicholas Winterton, whose support for government policy is increasingly hazy. He has taken on the unlikely mantle of doughy champion of the backbenchers and protector of the independence of the select committee system from government interference.

□ David Heathcoat-Amory, the unfortunate deputy chief whip charged with handling the nominations. He is being portrayed not only as a sinister figure, shuffling the committee places behind-the-scenes, but also as something less than competent for failing to check which other Tory MPs would be caught by the new three-parliament rule.

If the Tory whips had engineered the nominations to cause the maximum unrest among their MPs, they could scarcely have done better.



Little John to the rescue: John Gummer, the agriculture minister, joins members of the local archery club in Sherwood forest. He aims to restore Robin Hood's legendary haunt to its ancient splendour

## MPs rebel against pegged allowance

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A POSSIBLE rebellion against the government move to limit the increase in MPs' allowances to 9.8 per cent was gaining ground last night as Labour and the Liberal Democrats put their names to an amendment overturning the prime minister's decision.

The amendment, tabled by Chris Smith, Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, calls for the review body's recommendations to be implemented. They would have given MPs up to a 40 per cent rise in their office allowances.

Simon Hughes, Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark

and Bermondsey, and Alex Carlile, Liberal Democrat MP for Montgomery, have signed the amendment.

Although MPs are to be given a free vote next Tuesday when the government motion goes before the House, most if not all Labour MPs and Liberal Democrats are expected to vote for the amendment. Whips for both parties were last night hunting out Tory rebels to sign up so they could put forward a cross-party amendment.

Conservative MPs who in the past have spoken out in favour of big increases in MPs' office allowances were reticent about showing their hand last night. Mr Smith said, however, that a number of Tories had indicated to him that they would rebel on Tuesday.

It is understood that new MPs of all parties are particularly concerned about the decision to slash the review body's recommendation. The report's proposal for a one off capital sum of £5,000 to help MPs to buy computer equipment, which the government rejected, had been eagerly expected by the new intake.

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat MP who defeated Chris Patten in Bath yesterday complained that the decision penalised new MPs who had to take on new staff at higher rates and buy expensive equipment. "It is ridiculous to expect MPs to be able to do their jobs properly, representing their constituency unless they were given the right resources," he said.

"Without realistic increases in office cost allowances, the only Members of Parliament able to work properly would be those with a private income or a second job."

The review body report proposed raising the maximum allowance from £28,986 to between £37,360 and £42,360, an increase of between 23 and 40 per cent. The prime minister restricted the rise to a maximum of £33,190.

## Labour protests over civil list accounts

BY SHEILA GUNN

LABOUR MPs reacted angrily yesterday to their discovery that neither the parliamentary financial watchdog nor Sir John Bourn, the auditor general, will be allowed to examine accounts of money paid to the royal family to carry out public duties.

The Commons public accounts committee has been told its members have no right to enquire into the accounts for the civil list until 2000. Sir John has no statutory power to call in the accounts for examination.

Government sources insist

there is an agreement, approved by MPs in 1990, to look at the civil list accounts, totalling £9 million a year every ten years. The accounts are audited every year by a Treasury team. Under the deal, the royal family receives an annual rise of 7.5 per cent until the year 2000.

Terry Davis, a Labour member of the committee, predicted an "almighty row" on Monday. Bob Cryer, MP for Bradford South, said: "It is a public outrage that effectively parliament has been denied the right to scrutinise the civil list."

## Sherwood going back to nature

BY JOHN YOUNG

PLANS to restore Sherwood forest, indelibly linked with the legend of Robin Hood, to something near its ancient splendour were announced yesterday by John Gummer, the agriculture minister.

Although Sherwood is one of the few survivors of the great lowland forest that once covered most of England, little remains of the ancient forest and Sherwood is subject to intense public pressure, with great tracts cleared for agriculture, housing, mining and industrial development.

In a written reply to a Parliamentary question, Mr Gummer said Sherwood forest was famous throughout the world and one of Britain's best-known tourist destinations. "The government believes that the time is now right for a programme of work to improve, and perhaps recreate, the Sherwood forest of old," he said. He had asked the Forestry Commission to redesign its 4,000 hectare holding to make it more attractive and restore some of the original heathland. The long-term aim would be to revive native mixed woodlands.

23

992

'S

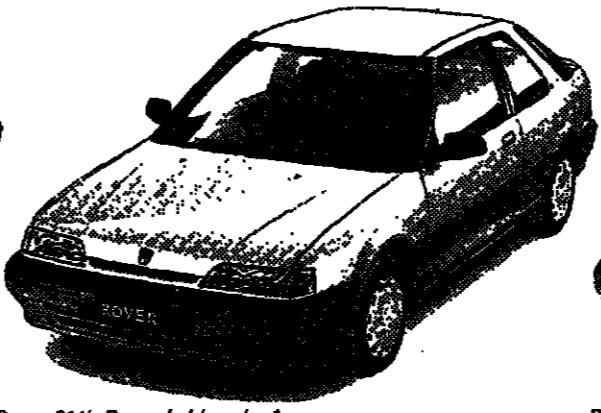
anchester to 100. It is a city of Chinese communities possibilities, or another, tourism. It left by the ring, but it emming the seyside hasles."

away from towards h Wales and the region tractions in Brighton, Mere and Pilkington St. Helens, and Croydon which alone hasles a year.

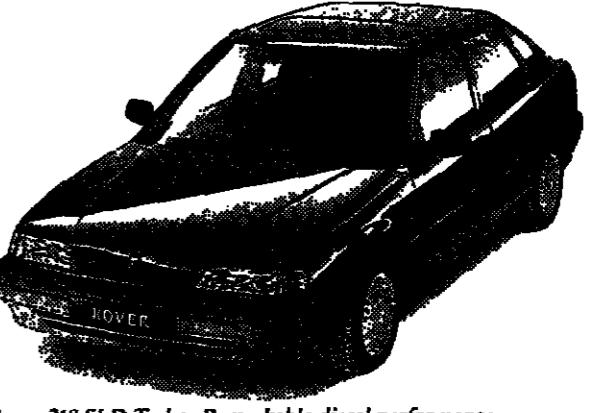
## EIGHT REASONS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE ROVER 200 SERIES.



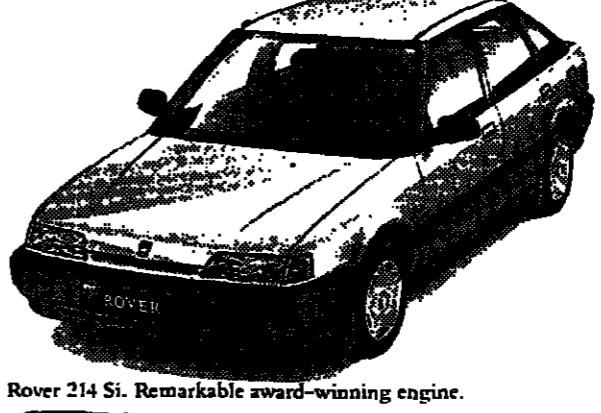
Rover 216 Cabriolet. Remarkable fun.



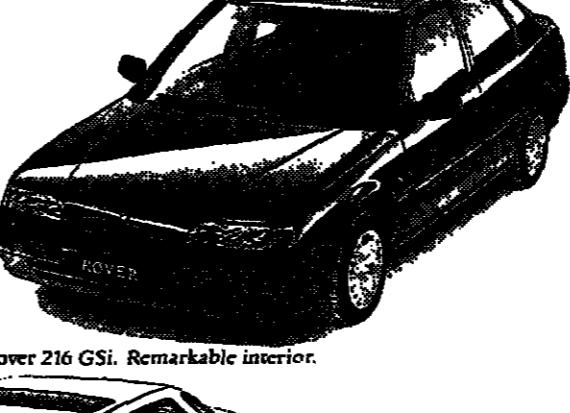
Rover 214i. Remarkable value.\*



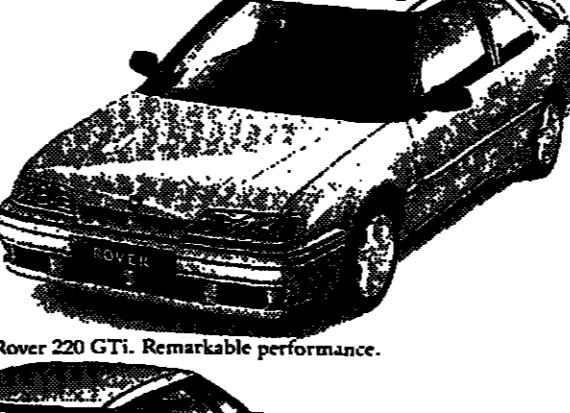
Rover 218 SLD Turbo. Remarkable diesel performance.



Rover 214 Si. Remarkable award-winning engine.



Rover 216 GSi. Remarkable interior.



Rover 220 GTi. Remarkable performance.



Rover 218 SD. Remarkable diesel economy.

The Rover 200 Series has been making its mark ever since it was announced.

And it keeps getting better and better.

The K-Series engine has just won the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement.

There are now two Cabriolets. There are diesel models. There is even a Rover 200 model (the 214i) that starts at just £9,995\*.

But the eighth reason for the success of the 200 Series is one shared by every single one of these cars: Quality. Rover quality.

In the long run, it's the one reason that makes all the difference.

For further information on the Rover 200 series and details of our special Burberry offer, call free on 0800 52 10 20. Or send off the coupon.

Post to: Rover Cars, Freepost, 1399, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4BU.	
Fax to: 0753 696005.	
Title: Mr Mrs Miss _____ Initials _____ BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE	
Surname: _____	
Address: _____	
Postcode: _____	
Home Tel. No. (inc. STD code): _____	
Current Car (Make/Model): _____	
Likely to Change (Mth/Yr): _____	
Reg. No: _____	

ROVER 200 SERIES

MFII

IT'S EVERYTHING YOU EXPECT.

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.



ROVER 200 PRICES FROM £9,995 TO £15,995. \*ROVER 214 3-DOOR, SPECIAL EDITION £14,995 SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. PRICES EXCLUDE £440 CO. OF ROAD TAX, NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY TO THE DEALER. FREE OFFICIAL SERVICING (UP TO BUT NOT INCLUDING 12,000 MILES/12 MONTHS SERVICE). NATIONWIDE CAR HIRE THROUGH BRITISH CAR RENTAL, TEL: 0203 716166. FOR TAX FREE SALES PLEASE TELEPHONE 'INTERNATIONAL LINE' ON 0367 244344.

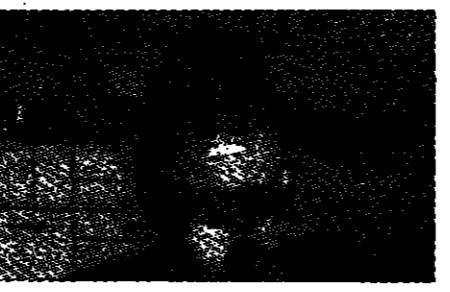
# Boosting cashflow



Mikal-Johann Lyndoe  
Managing Director  
Lyndoe (Holdings) plc

*'We're getting our bills paid in half the time'*

# Keeping customers



Phillip Isherwood  
Managing Director  
Dental Linkline

*'We've shown our customers that we care'*

# Winning business



Patricia Mahoney  
Administrative Director  
Unicorn Theatre for Children

*'We've put our bookings up to over 80%'*

# Find out how

*Don't delay. Call now on 0800 800 977 for your free information pack –  
'Make communications make a difference.' Alternatively just cut out the coupon.*

Your pack includes three Business Issues reports plus the BT Business Catalogue.



Free information pack.

**CALL US FREE ON 0800 800 977**

Yes, please send me a copy of BT's 'Make communications make a difference'  
 I would like a sales call from BT in the next week

Title: Mr / Mrs / Ms

Initials:

Surname:

Job Title:

Company Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Daytime Phone No: (Code)  Number:

Please send to: BT, Dept. GKD, FREEPOST BS 6295,  
Bristol, BS1 2BR. No stamp required.



Britain  
for imp  
testin  
each q

\* BRIEF  
anager  
after  
crash

us sentence

number jailed

ictim named

Lakeland limit

ound and clear

The Times finds that some coastal pollution is nothing more than seaweed and shifting sand

## Britain fights for impartial testing of beach quality

By NICHOLAS WATT

THE government is to fight for a fairer deal for Britain's beaches after angry complaints about an EC report that says 166 UK beaches fail to comply with Community standards.

Enquiries by *The Times* have shown that some blacklisted beaches are polluted by nothing more than seaweed and shifting sand.

The depth of the division between Britain and Brussels will be shown today when a Tidy Britain flag is hoisted on Blackpool Sands, South Hams, Devon — one of the beaches marked out as a failure by the EC in its survey *Quality of Bathing 1991*. Bournemouth was astonished to find that two of its beaches are blacklisted and has joined South Hams in protesting against the unfairness of the system.

An environment department spokeswoman said yesterday: "One of the priorities of our EC presidency is to set up an inspectorate of inspectors. In some countries the local authority or water company carry out the tests. They obviously want to ensure a good result. In Greece they don't carry out tests on rainy days when there is a lot of sewage outflow. In Britain the tests are carried out by the independent National Rivers Authority whatever the weather. An inspectorate would ensure that the tests are on a level playing field."

For *Quality of Bathing 1991*, water was tested in two ways: first for microbiological parameters, which checks for faecal coliforms; and secondly for physico-chemical parameters, including tests for transparency and colour. Bournemouth and Blackpool Sands passed all the tests except the controversial ones for colour and "surface active substances", which are basically foam.

The environment depart-

ment spokeswoman said: "Water is sometimes coloured because it is disturbed by tides. Mediterranean countries do not have this problem. It is dreadful that a beach should be condemned as polluted when it is not a danger and fails just for aesthetic reasons. The only way that some beaches could pass the EC test would be to put cling film on the beach to stop the sand being disturbed."

South Hams District Council in Devon, which today unfurls its Premier Beach Award at Blackpool Sands, reacted angrily to the EC findings. The beach failed a mere three tests out of a total of 103 in the colour and surface substance categories.

Frank Palmer, the council's chief executive, said: "The EC has taken these tests out of context. The beach is one of the cleanest in Britain. If we get a southeasterly gale, seaweed washes onto the beach and there is nothing we can do about that."

The water at Bournemouth Pier is also condemned in the EC report even though it failed only seven out of 108 tests. Bournemouth's Hengistbury East beach failed nine out of 100 tests. None of the failures was caused by man-made pollution. Kenneth Male, director of tourism and publicity, said: "We are never complacent about standards. The Marine Conservation Society refers to us as good boys."

The National Rivers Authority conducts the tests throughout the summer. Beaches must pass 95 per cent of microbiological tests. The environment department said that Britain was far more rigorous than some EC countries which did not bother with half their tests. Britain comes top of the list for the amount of designated beaches it tests with a figure of 100 per cent.



Flying the flag: seaside supporters pay their tribute to the award-winning Blackpool Sands beach in Devon

### THE TIMES GUIDE TO BLACKSPOT BEACHES

#### Beaches not complying with EC pollution standards

Certain beaches in or near the following places fail to comply with EC pollution standards

#### GERMANY

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN  
Kampern, Wenningstedt, Westerland, Rantum, Hörnum-West, Wanner, Freesdorf, Börn, Lindewitt, Jarplund, Havetoft, Süderfahrendorf, Nebel, Idstedt, Lünsdorf, Jübeck, Wulfen, Hohenhude, Wrohe, Emdendorf, Grossvollstedt, Elsendorf, Bording, Langwedel, Bordingholm, Mühelbrook, Krogaspe, Padestadt, Schacht-Audorf

#### MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN

Purgarten, Breege, Glowe, Lübeck, Putbus, Sellin, Middelhagen, Gager, Thiesow, Göhren, Zudar, Dranske Kalvitz, Prötow, Wampen, Ludwigsburg, Loissin, Gatkow, Lubmin, Krosin, Lütow, Rankin, Karslager, Tressin, Hennickendorf, Bansin, Kamminke, Graal-Müritz, Warnemünde

#### LOWER SAXONY

Wangerland, Langsoog, Eenes, Krummhörn



Source: European Commission

## Legacy of reckless dumping

WITH only the cold North Sea and remote Baltic beaches for sea bathing, Germans who like to swim prefer either to go abroad or to use the country's many lakes.

Germany is having to cope with the consequences of decades of reckless dumping of waste in the rivers and lakes of east Germany. The Elbe, which formed the border between the two Germanies, joins the sea at Hamburg but by then it is full of industrial filth. Chemical pollution levels in lakes and rivers rise when there is heavy rain because poisons are washed out of the soil.

The 1990 report showed that 77 per cent of German beaches were within the compliance rate, compared with 64 per cent in 1991. The report says that the decline was probably due to exceptional weather. Germany's environment ministry is not worried. A spokesman said: "Generally our water is very good for bathing."

Denmark imposes stricter standards on environmental protection than other European Community member states and bathing is forbidden on about 10 miles of the country's 3,125 miles of coast suitable for swimming (Christopher Follett writes from Copenhagen).

The Danish Environmental Protection Agency sets three categories of bathing water quality: fine, doubtful and prohibited. This year 28 beaches have been closed to swimmers compared to 38 last year, while 54 are rated doubtful compared to 68.

Safe, with only a few doubtful enclaves, are the fashionable beaches between Copenhagen and Elsinor and the string of sandy beaches stretching along North Zealand's beautiful north coast. The long, wide, unbroken beaches are sweeping silver-white expanses of sand spiced with marram grass — packed with German and Danish visitors in the hottest summer since 1874 — are given a largely clean bill.

## European tide sweeps into British courts

A rash of judgments from Luxembourg is a sign of the growing power of the European Court, Frances Gibb writes

from fishing in British waters. The ruling that part of an act of Parliament could be suspended until its compatibility with EC law had been tested brought an outcry, with Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, saying that the Treaty of Rome was like an incoming tide: "It flows into the estuaries and up the rivers. It cannot be held back."

The court does not simply issue dicta. Much of its work derives from requests by courts in member states for an interpretation of EC law: the House of Lords, for example, had referred the Sunday trading question in this way. The other half of its work is direct actions, in which the Commission has brought an action against a member state, or an action is brought against the Commission. Member states, individuals and companies look to the court to check the power of Brussels.

In 1989, the court had 600 pending cases after handing down 238 judgments the year before. The huge growth in workload brought about the creation of a new Court of First Instance in 1989, establishing a two-tier system. This deals chiefly with contentious cases and disputes between the Commission and its staff. That court has eased some of the pressure: a reference from a national court for a

ruling takes on average 18 months and direct action case between 22 and 24 months. But the growing workload remains.

As more countries join the Community, more actions will be brought for non-compliance with directives. Figures from the Commission in April showed that a record number of rulings are not being complied with: 105 court judgments had yet to be implemented, compared with 83 the year before.

One reason for the delay in implementing rulings is inadequate sanctions. However, a recent landmark case, Francovich, held that EC citizens have a right to compensation if they suffer as a result of their government's failure to comply with EC legal obligations. Under the Maastricht treaty, the court will also be able to fine governments that fail to comply.

Maastricht, if implemented, may have a far wider effect than increasing the court's powers. Peter Duffy, a barrister and EC law specialist, said that it would bring new areas of work within the scope of EC law, expanding the court's brief in fields such as consumer protection and environmental policy. The court might also find itself involved in areas that the treaty did not intend for it. Third, amid debate about the meaning of the Maastricht principle of "subsidiarity", the court was likely to be called on to decide whether an issue should be dealt with at Community level. Mr Duffy said.

But David Vaughan, QC, another EC specialist, said:

"I don't honestly think

Maastricht will make much

difference. In some respects

it may reduce the court's work, in that Maastricht

contains a protocol on pensions, for instance, which

might reduce some of the

cases going to Europe on the

retroactive aspects of the

Barber [pensions] case."



Denning led outcry against fishing ruling

### Arms sentence

Robert Black, a former steelworker, was jailed for four years yesterday after detectives found \$61b of high explosives and arms at his home in Airdrie, Strathclyde. Black, 29, had links with the Protestant Apprentice Boys of Londonderry, the High Court in Edinburgh was told.

Steven Reynolds, 19, of Cowley, Oxford, is thought to be one of the first people charged with the new offence under the Road Traffic Act, which came into force on July 1. It carries a maximum penalty of five years in jail and replaces the offence of causing death by reckless driving.

Ivor James, 83, who was partially blind, died on Sunday, three days after the incident, which happened as he was walking in Oxford.

### Bomber jailed

Faruk Topal, 36, of east London, a Kurdish political refugee who admitted throwing a Molotov cocktail into a crowded concourse at Heathrow airport on March 13, was jailed for five years by Isleworth Crown Court.

### Victim named

Clive Lamourne, 36, a father of two and Gulf war veteran, was named yesterday as the second crew member who died when an RAF Buccaneer jet crashed into the North Sea on Thursday.

### Lakeland limit

A 10mph speed limit proposal for Windermere was published by the Lake District special planning board. Objectors have one month to oppose the bylaw amendment.

### Loud and clear

Swansea council has fitted its 24-ton dustcarts with bilingual audio messages, "Warning — vehicle reversing", in English and Welsh.

## HOME NEWS 11

### Blue Flag 'not as rigorous'

TODAY'S Premier Seaside Award to Blackpool Sands beach in Devon is even harder to win than the EC's prestigious Blue Flag, the Tidy Britain Group said (Nicholas Watt writes).

The group devised the award and Nigel Tansley-Thomas, a spokesman, said: "Our coliform tests are the same as the EC's but our award has more rigorous standards on beach facilities. The beach has to satisfy 28 criteria on safety and on facilities such as toilets. For example, where the Blue Flag award says there should be phones by the beach we say they should be checked daily and should be at five-minute intervals. Blackpool Sands has achieved a very high score to win the award."

When the yellow and blue flag is unfurled at the beach today Pat Nettleton, who works for South Hams council, will take a dip. "I'm going in to show how clean and safe the beach is. I think this is part of the any other duties clause in my contract."

23

992

S

anchester to  
00.  
is a city of  
with Chinese  
possibilities  
or another.  
I left by the  
ring, but it  
emming the  
seaside has  
des."  
away from  
towards the  
h Wales and  
the region  
fractious in  
brighton, the  
lartin, Mere  
islands and  
Pilkington  
St. Helens,  
and Croxteth  
s a year.

oldore

ies

ter.



**Hitler's master of lies. Get the whole truth from tomorrow.**

Starting tomorrow, in *The Sunday Times*, you can read exclusive extracts from the only complete collection of the private journals of Joseph Goebbels, covering the years 1932-1945.

Hitler's master of lies gives you his inside story of the rise and fall of the Nazis. The lost diaries of Joseph Goebbels. Only in *The Sunday Times*.

**THE SUNDAY TIMES**

# Rabin to control foreign policy in coalition cabinet

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

**YITZHAK** Rabin, Israel's prime minister in waiting, yesterday officially informed President Herzog that he will have a working coalition government in place when the Knesset reopens on Monday.

After two weeks of intense negotiations with smaller religious, right-wing and left-wing parties, the Labour party leader has passed his first test by putting together a majority in the 120-seat parliament. The new government, in which Labour will have 44 seats, the left-wing Meretz party 12 and the ultra-orthodox Sephardi Jewish party Shas six, gives Mr Rabin a wafer-thin majority of four, boosted by the tacit sup-

port of five Israeli Arab parliamentarians.

By the standards of the notoriously tortuous and prolonged process of Israeli coalition building, Mr Rabin can claim rightly that he has succeeded in putting together a working government in a short period. Certainly it will enable him to install himself in the prime minister's office and set about planning what is likely to be a hectic summer of diplomatic contacts leading to a meeting with President Bush and the resumption of Middle East peace talks in Rome.

However, Mr Rabin has been forced to part with key ministerial portfolios. Arye

Deri, the Shas leader, who set off yesterday for his native Morocco for talks with King Hassan, will remain interior minister. Shulamit Aloni, the Meretz leader, becomes education minister while her colleagues Amnon Rubinstein and Yair Tsaban have been appointed energy and immigrant absorption ministers respectively.

Other portfolios will be decided tomorrow when Labour heads meet in Tel Aviv to decide who will be rewarded after the party's election victory last month. But Mr Rabin is likely to keep a firm personal hold on key aspects of his new government, particularly the course of the Middle East peace process.

For instance, the tough former general has made it clear that he, and not the future foreign minister, will decide all foreign policy matters concerning negotiations with the Palestinians and Israel's Arab neighbours. He may also decide to keep the defence portfolio for himself.

Mr Rabin, whose flexible position at the negotiating table is tempered by a fearsome reputation as defence minister and former chief of staff, has also made it clear that he intends to broaden his leftist coalition and hopes to attract other partners.

In particular, he has made it known he still wants to include the right-wing Tsomet party, which won eight seats in the election, even though its leader, Rafael Eitan, the party's leader, ended inconclusively. The other likely ally is the ultra-Orthodox United Torah party with four Knesset seats.

"For now we are satisfied with the government, but we are keeping our doors open to other interested parties who could join now or after the Knesset opens," said one senior Labour party official.

Labour's eagerness for additional coalition partners is two-fold. First, Mr Rabin wants a large majority in the Knesset to give as broad a mandate as possible for his ambitious proposals at the Middle East negotiating table, where he intends to offer Palestinians the right to hold elections and the opportunity for self rule.

More important, the Labour leader, 70, needs to ensure that he has enough parties in his government so that he cannot be blackmailed by any one coalition faction, a threat which he faces with his narrow majority. With a mixture of religious, leftist and right-wing partners, Mr Rabin believes he will be able successfully to divide and rule his coalition for the duration of his four-year term.

The formation of the new government yesterday, coincided with deepening divisions within the Palestinian community, where mediators attempted to halt a week of inter-communal fighting in the Gaza Strip. Scores of people have been injured in clashes between supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainstream Fatah group, which broadly supports the peace talks, and hardline fundamentalists.

• **Settlement stopped:** Teddy Kollek, the mayor of Jerusalem, has forced the indefinite postponement of plans by Ariel Sharon, the former hardline housing minister, to construct hundreds of Jewish homes in two Arab areas of the city. (AFP)

The morning had been more congenial for the press, invited to meet the governor on the manicured lawns of Government House, to record a genteel scene reminiscent of President Bush holding forth in the rose garden of the White House.

Mr Patten spoke of the need for more open and accessible government, and the possibility of instituting a regular question-time session in the legislative council. He clearly wants to be seen as a man of the people, prepared just as much to jostle among street hawkers, gamblers and prostitutes as he is to respond to the queries of his elected councillors.

Having set himself a formidable schedule, he has begun at a cracking pace. He will be a tough man if he keeps it up for five years.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Up and down the dark alleys and shabby market streets he went, taking in the reeking flavours and garish colours of his new domain. He saw festering open drains, street hawkers selling sizzling duckskins, and stalls piled high with mountains of flesh-coloured bra cups and draped with the tangled tentacles of black suspender belts.

Shoddy grey tenement buildings towered overhead, sprouting grimy laundry lines, plants, dripping woks and other kitchen paraphernalia from their windows so that they almost meshed together high above the thoroughway and the heads of the crawling masses.

Many of Mong Kok's "chickens" (prostitutes) were just getting up as Mr Patten toured the district, repainting their faces and squeezing into sequined latex tubes for another 12-hour night shift in Mong Kok's brothels and massage parlours.

Two months ago a double murder and shoot-out took place in one of Mong Kok's mahjong parlours. To the district's crime rate is one of the highest in Hong Kong and vice squads and anti-Triad officers mount an average of 1,000 raids every month.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-



Mud lark: Matthew Campbell of Black Diamond, Alberta, grins after competing in the wild horse race at the Calgary Stampede. He didn't win, but he enjoyed it as rain turned the arena into a quagmire

## Patten takes look at the vice district

**Joanna Pitman** joins Chris Patten on a walkabout among prostitutes and duckskins, the mahjong and massage parlours, in Hong Kong's heat

**CHRIS** Patten will not have to die if he carries on at this rate. Hong Kong's new governor must have shed several unwanted pounds during his first day on the job yesterday, when he gamely went on a walkabout in Mong Kok district, the vice district and the most densely populated spot on Earth, where every square mile is home to more than 140,000 people.

It felt as if everyone had turned out to gawp at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Up and down the dark alleys and shabby market streets he went, taking in the reeking flavours and garish colours of his new domain. He saw festering open drains, street hawkers selling sizzling duckskins, and stalls piled high with mountains of flesh-coloured bra cups and draped with the tangled tentacles of black suspender belts.

Shoddy grey tenement buildings towered overhead, sprouting grimy laundry lines, plants, dripping woks and other kitchen paraphernalia from their windows so that they almost meshed together high above the thoroughway and the heads of the crawling masses.

Many of Mong Kok's "chickens" (prostitutes) were just getting up as Mr Patten toured the district, repainting their faces and squeezing into sequined latex tubes for another 12-hour night shift in Mong Kok's brothels and massage parlours.

Two months ago a double murder and shoot-out took place in one of Mong Kok's mahjong parlours. To the district's crime rate is one of the highest in Hong Kong and vice squads and anti-Triad officers mount an average of 1,000 raids every month.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-



Patten: met hawkers and gamblers in alleys

stampede of sweating journalists and television crews.

The morning had been

more congenial for the

press, invited to meet the

governor on the manicured

lawns of Government House,

to record a genteel scene

reminiscent of President Bush holding forth in the rose garden of the White House.

Mr Patten spoke of the

need for more open and

accessible government, and

the possibility of instituting a

regular question-time session in

the legislative council. He

clearly wants to be seen as a

man of the people, prepared

just as much to jostle among

street hawkers, gamblers and

prostitutes as he is to respond

to the queries of his elected

councillors.

Having set himself a

formidable schedule, he has

begun at a cracking pace. He

will be a tough man if he keeps it up for five years.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

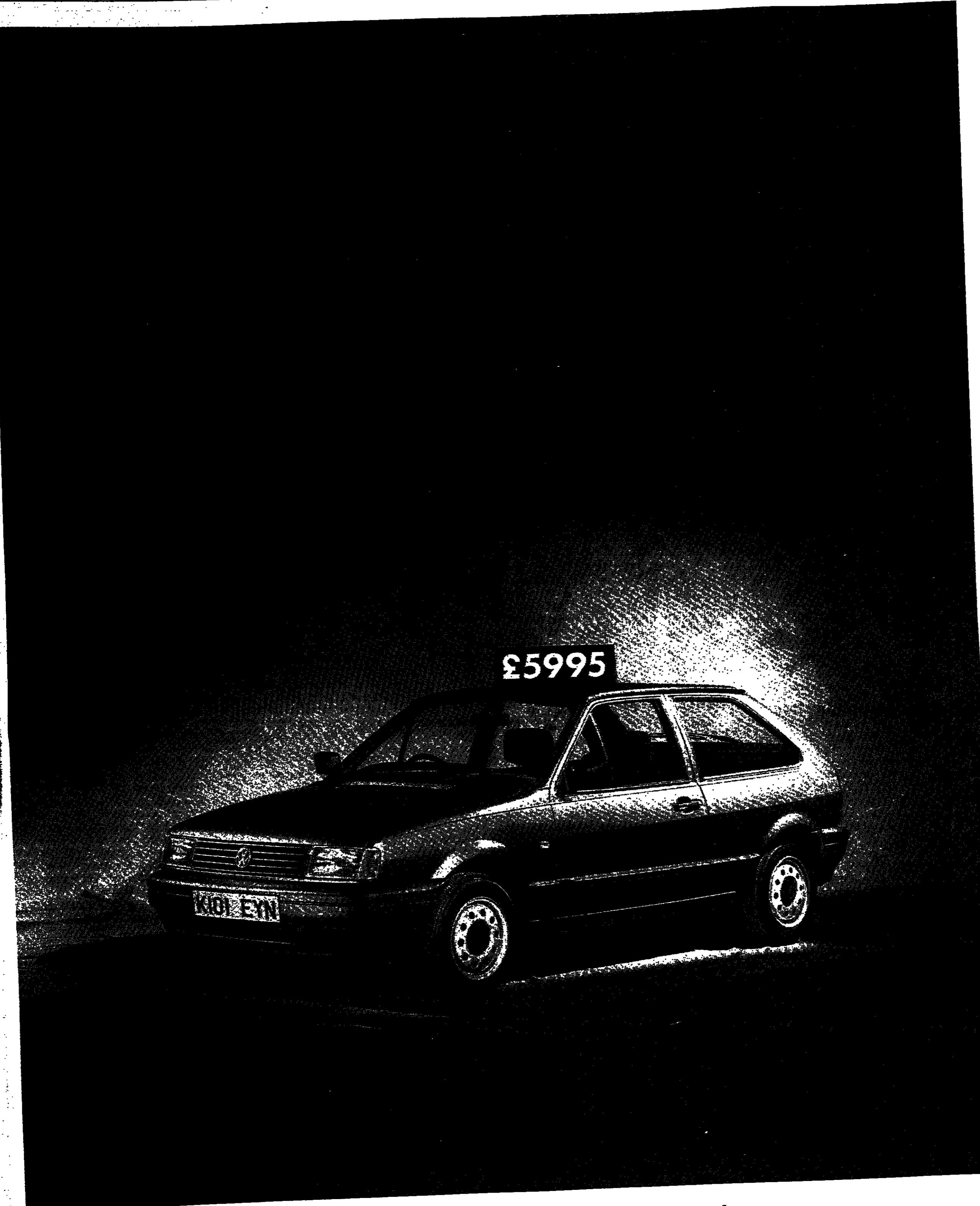
Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr Patten forged out among the press of wildly bobbing faces, the supplicants, the demonstrators and the merely curious. He shook hundreds of hands, hugged a baby, sipped herbal teas and even took a ride on the subway train.

Passing a multitude of less-er inns, saunas and houses of disrepute, Mr Patten may not have noticed a curious estab-

lishment nestling behind a few Rolex stall at the governor, whose large pale face, gleaming with sweat, was barely discernible amid the throng. Panting in the soupy heat and shepherded by security guards, Mr P

anchester to '00. is a city of with Chinese communities possibilities or another. of tourism. It left by the ring, but it emming the seaside has dies." ateway from towards the Wales and the region tractions in triton, the Mere islands and Pilkington St. Helens, and Croxeth which alone's a year.



## For once, a Volkswagen that falls below your expectations.

It's not every day we lop £666 off the price of a Polo to bring you a Volkswagen for under £6,000.

Suspicious? Shame on you. Our Polo Fox may be the least expensive Polo but that doesn't make it any less of a Volkswagen.

It's still subjected to the sort of quality control one wag described as 'far and away

the severest test of the human spirit.'

Rest assured, then, the fittings fit. The fixtures stay fixed. And every stitch and seam runs straight and true.

All good standard stuff. As, indeed, are features like fuel injection, servo brakes and a 'three-way' catalyst.

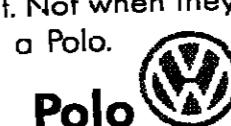
For the record, across the range few small

cars are as environmentally sensitive as the catalytic Polo.

To be fair, though, the lack of a 'cat' is nothing the others couldn't put right simply by bumping their price up £500 or so.

But chances are, they won't. Not when they know you can clean up with a Polo.

Without getting cleaned out.



\*EXCLUDES NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY. REDUCTION ON MANUFACTURER'S LIST PRICE  
FOR BUSINESS AND PURCHASE INFORMATION CONTACT VOLKSWAGEN INFORMATION SERVICES (DEPT PA/101) FREEPOST, LONDON'S DRIVE, BALE ELANDS, MILTON KEYNES MK1 5PF TEL 0800 788800 TAX FREE SALES 0800 505678

# Left in limbo, Bratislava slides sadly from rôles to ruins



Mečiar: slowing ordered in free market reforms

THE Carlton Hotel, which looks out on the Slovak National Theatre, has been one of the grand fixtures of Central Europe for two centuries. Now it is a crumbling ruin which, like Czechoslovakia itself, will close down this summer for repairs and may perhaps never open again.

Nothing conveys the sadness of rundown Slovakia better than this faded palace of a hotel. There are new hotels sprouting in Bratislava — the Forum and the Danube — with their slick coffee shops and unvisited fitness centres. But the Carlton is a classic victim of the age.

Once the haunt of Habsburgian routes — a good place for Viennese gentlemen to take their mistresses and play the tables — it was "standardised" under socialist rule. Today the telephone

The faded grandeur of the Carlton Hotel says much about a Slovakia that seems paralysed by the past and suspicious of the future. Roger Boyes writes from Bratislava

exchange is a creaking push button machine in a back room run by a jolly woman. Over her head there is a sign denoting the three best ways of losing money. The most pleasurable: women. The quickest: gambling. The most secure: computers.

But it remains a joke; it would be difficult to squander money in any of the recommended ways in today's Bratislava. Even the prostitutes that used to stand in hazy delirium in the lobby have disappeared. There is little custom in a hotel with damp-stained carpets, doors that shriek on

their hinges, cracked wash basins in the corridor.

The gamblers have moved across the Hviezdoslavovo Square to the Park Casino frequented by young Viennese in dark glasses who are not after the thrill of roulette but rather a quick way to make their shillings cleaner. As for computers, there are a few around, but even in the flashy hotels they are surrounded by a gaggle of Slovaks saying: "Try this button! No, try that one!"

Bratislava was a fine, if crumbling city when the communists took over. Then came

the flyover, the motorway, the Jerry-built hotels, the housing estate silos of Petržalka, and suddenly there was little left. Slovak nationalism was regarded as an evil incubus; anything that predated 1945 was allowed to rot.

The Carlton, taken over by the state hotel chain, has been dying more softly, starved of intelligent investment. The maids' huge vacuum cleaner is covered with sticking plasters like a scrappy child. The lock breaks on one of the rooms and the janitor has to crawl along the window ledge to rescue the guest.

Another porter, scented a tip, wakes from a deep slumber, tries to vault the reception counter, stumbles, twists his ankle and, grimacing, grabs the lightest piece of luggage of a stray Western guest. "The room," he gasps, turning on

tights offers to sell a ticket to a Boy George concert. The ticket is a week out of date.

The Slovak capital is well ahead of the rest of the republic. At least in Bratislava the shops are brightening up a little — Benetton, Austrian underwear boutiques — and the Old Town district is being slowly renewed. But they are like gold teeth in a decaying mouth. The market revolution is due to be slowed down by Vladimír Mečiar, the Slovak leader, yet it has not even started in central and eastern Slovakia apart from higher prices and longer date queues.

Slovakia has become a limbo society, enjoying neither the benefits of a market economy nor of a communist one, neither democratic witness, the terror struck into Bratislava journalists by Mr Mečiar nor totalitarian



the tap which gushes cold brown water.

There was nothing else to turn on — the 1950s radio can only whine, the shutters are stuck — so he gives a cheery wave and advises that the reception should be able to find him if needed. At breakfast, paid for by a pink coupon printed in 1976, a Polish travelling salesman, (with a case full of

Czech cynics say that the Slovaks are waiting to be colonised by the Austrians again.

That is not fair. But there has been a social paralysis since the 1989 velvet revolution that does not properly prepare the country for independence. The city authorities, unable to cope with rising crime, have allowed three separate private police forces to guard the Slovak capital. The most noticeable are the so-called Black Sheriffs, New York cop lookalikes with black uniforms, Colt revolvers and swagger sticks, who clear small-time crooks from hotel lobbies.

The puzzle is how to move from a tired, stagnant society to independent statehood, without ending up as a poor, intolerant backwater forgotten by the world.

## Security in Europe

# Summit stumbles as it takes first peace step

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN HELSINKI

THE Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) was set up here yesterday as the body primarily responsible for security and stability in Europe and the new forum for East-West arms control talks. But it failed the first test of its new peacekeeping powers when the summit that ordained them was unable to agree on the terms for a mission of 100 unarmed observers to Nagorno-Karabakh, the disputed enclave in Azerbaijan.

It was the biggest summit ever to be held in Europe. Presidents and prime ministers from 29 states belonging to Nato and the former Soviet Union also signed an agreement to cut troop strengths in Europe and another for the provisional implementation of the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, signed in Paris in 1990. Full implementation

must await ratification by Belarus and Armenia.

The political declaration renews the 52-nation CSCE as a key decision-making body after years of quiescence. It provides for new peacemaking and peacekeeping mechanisms, and will concentrate especially on preventive diplomacy.

The CSCE is to be the authority to consider all threats to European security and authorise any appropriate military response by Nato, the Western European Union (WEU), the European Community or any other organisation. The declaration attempts to avoid duplication between existing organisations, and clarify the links and overlaps between them.

The first immediate test of this new principle was the authorisation of a joint Nato-WEU operation to enforce

United Nations sanctions against Serbia.

All speakers, including President Yeltsin, welcomed the new role for the conference. The Russian leader also called for the creation of a rapid reaction military force that could be used to contain ethnic conflicts in Europe and the former Soviet Union.

He warned delegates yesterday of the tide of aggressive nationalism that followed the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and said the new force, following the example of the UN, should be used "before the blood has begun to flow". Otherwise, he said, the explosion of ethnic and nationalist tensions could become "the real plague of the 21st century".

John Major said that the CSCE had to take on a new role as a firefighter. Its effectiveness depended largely on peer pressure, the moral and political force the majority could bring to bear on the minority.

Wars in the East and continuing disputes dominated the two-day summit. Most nations voiced strong support for the demand by the Baltic states for a swift withdrawal of troops of the former Soviet army from their territory.

Mr Major said there had been good progress: the Russians had agreed at the summit that they would remove all their forces, but still had not set a time-scale. He called for continued pressure on Moscow over this.

The break-up of Czechoslovakia was also discussed by President Bush in talks with President Havel on Thursday and with Jozef Antal, the Hungarian prime minister, yesterday. Mr Bush strongly emphasised that any split in the federation must be peaceful and constitutional. Mr Antal assured him that there would be "no second Yugoslavia in Czechoslovakia".

With dozens of presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers in Helsinki, most leaders found time for bilateral talks, especially with Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, now heading the Georgian delegation. Mr Major and Mr Bush saw him.

Mr Major also had talks with President Kravchuk of Ukraine, and the prime ministers of Denmark, Finland and Sweden, three of the four countries applying for membership of the European Community for which the British EC presidency is to prepare the negotiations.

Naval operation, page 1

# Bonn and Britain open joint embassy

BY MICHAEL BINYON

BRITAIN and Germany yesterday set up the world's first joint embassy in Kazakhstan, when Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, signed an agreement to share a building, facilities and diplomatic reporting in Alma Ata, the Kazakh capital.

Each country will have its own diplomats, but they will pool much of their work as well as helping each other with consular protection, economic analysis and political reporting. The only area that will remain firmly separate will be commercial work, where both countries will be in competition for contracts. The British ambassador and two other staff will arrive in the autumn.

At the signing ceremony, Mr Hurd said that the need for representation in the former Soviet republics demanded many resources. Britain and Germany had decided to pool their efforts and this, he hoped, would be the first of several such agreements. Herr Kinkel said this was extraordinary proof of European co-operation. It was not only a question of cost but of the increasingly close work among European Community diplomats.

The groundwork for yesterday's agreement was laid last year when Mr Hurd met Hans-Dieter Genscher, the then German foreign minister.

ter, in Leipzig to discuss ways the two countries could operate jointly in the new republics.

Germany's foreign service is structured similarly to that of Britain, and there are no protocol difficulties on either side to prevent co-operation. British officials said they could envisage a time when the Queen could even be represented by a German something impossible in France, where the president of the republic must always be represented by a Frenchman.

Britain's interest is largely economic; it has relatively little trade or political involvement with the smaller former Soviet republics, and is keen to piggyback on to the larger German presence, gaining a foothold where it would otherwise be uneconomic. Talks however have been going on about other forms of co-operation elsewhere, such as sharing embassy facilities with Holland, Denmark and other small EC countries with which Britain has close relations.

However, Britain does not yet envisage a European Community embassy representing its interests, as that would imply a complete merger of diplomatic services and a common foreign policy that took little heed of individual countries' different interests — something Britain strongly opposed at Maastricht.

Naval operation, page 1



Women at war: young Bosnians at a defence force outpost 300 yards from the Sarajevo front line clean a rifle in preparation for possible exchanges with Serb forces. The Serbs, who surround the Bosnian capital, recently shelled the old city in a stepped-up offensive.

## Thousands flee Bosnia every day

FROM TIM JUDAH  
AND DESSA TREVISA  
IN BELGRADE

EVERY day 10,000 people in the former Yugoslavia flee their homes, mostly in Bosnia, Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said in Belgrade at the end of a five-day trip to the republics.

Mrs Ogata said 117 plans had delivered aid to Sarajevo in one week, "but in the same period 70,000 people became new refugees". She said that one year of war had left 1.7 million displaced within former Yugoslavia with an estimated 500,000 now outside.

The break-up of Czechoslovakia was also discussed by President Bush in talks with President Havel on Thursday and with Jozef Antal, the Hungarian prime minister, yesterday. Mr Bush strongly emphasised that any split in the federation must be peaceful and constitutional. Mr Antal assured him that there would be "no second Yugoslavia in Czechoslovakia".

With dozens of presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers in Helsinki, most leaders found time for bilateral talks, especially with Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, now heading the Georgian delegation. Mr Major and Mr Bush saw him.

Naval operation, page 1

## Sniper fire shakes the cocktails at Sarajevo's frontline hotel

At the war-hit Holiday Inn, the windows and the walls are often missing, writes Bill Frost

They drink copiously, laugh too loudly and play with their guns in an alarming fashion.

The largest man — well over 6ft 6in — said that he was a member of the Croatian special forces who have lined up with the Muslim defenders of Sarajevo. "The hotel is a perfect base for us. We can stay from here on the Serbs."

The sniping draws retaliation from the lower blocks opposite the Holiday Inn. A British television cameraman was hit in the cheek this week, a day after a bullet had grazed a man's flak jacket.

Continuing food supplies to the hotel are something of a mystery. There are regular deliveries of meat, vegetables and French mineral water. Two bags were taken from the other cars. "Next time you may not be so lucky," said one intimidating bearded man.

## Nato 'used pigs as targets'

Amsterdam: A Dutch army colonel has called on the authorities to allow the shooting of live pigs to aid training of military surgeons. (Mark Edder writes)

Colonel W. van den Bogert told a military medical magazine that he had taken part in a Nato war surgery exercise in Norway, where live pigs were fired upon with different sorts of ammunition. This offered surgeons excellent opportunities to treat bullet wounds.

He said the pigs were sedated so they felt nothing. After being shot, they are felled to a field hospital where the surgery is carried out under the supervision of a veterinarian, to give surgeons experience not available in daily practice.

### Blaze kills five

Paris: Five people were killed and 12 injured when a man who had been asked to leave a hotel here set fire to it. Police arrested the man, who had to be protected from guests who had survived the fire. (Reuters)

### Archer strikes

Milan: Jane Suzanne Stevens, 21, a London student, had her calf pierced by an arrow as she knocked at the door of a hostel here. She is the third victim of a mysterious archer police likened to William Tell. (AP)

### Four arrested

Berlin: A Pole and two Austrians were in custody accused of illegally importing 11lb of cesium-137, almost 4lb of uranium-238 and 300 smoke detector components containing plutonium, all radioactive materials. Another Pole was also arrested. (AP)

### Bank bombed

Milan: Bombs, believed to be the work of Eta, the Basque separatist group, exploded outside the Bank of Bilbao and the Spanish Chamber of Commerce here causing damage but no injuries. (Reuters)

# Little prince puts case for ancestral land and castles to big powers

BY MICHAEL BINYON

FOR one little country, the Helsinki summit was not about building castles in the air but getting possession of castles on the ground.

Liechtenstein, population 30,000 and covering an area slightly smaller than the city of Helsinki, has its eye on two castles in Czechoslovakia. Feldberg and Eisgrub, turreted stone piles in Moravia, are the ancestral homes of the princely family now living in Vaduz. If stability and co-operation in Europe are to mean anything, the Liechtensteins argue, they are about restoring lands and castles to their rightful owners.

The royal house acquired

the castles and estates covering about 160 square kilometres in about 1600. After the first world war they were nationalised without compensation by Czechoslovakia, and the truncated republic of Austria separated them from their former owners.

Last year the Prague government announced that it was to give back land seized by the communists after 1948 to its former owners. However, there was no mention of compensation for the principality — now doing rather nicely from its fashionable ski slopes and its brass nameplate company headquarters.

Mario von Ledebur-Wic-

hel, a scion of the princely house though a little vague about his exact place in the family tree, came to Helsinki to seek justice. He fears the land, on which not only castles but also farms and factories now stand, will be sold. He brought with him a princess of the royal house

and Hans Brunhart, the prime minister who also serves as foreign minister, minister of finance, minister of education and minister of construction. Together they threatened to block the entire construction of Europe's future unless their case is heard. Liechtenstein would

not agree to any CSCE economic forum in Prague. It wanted first reassurance from the Czechs "so that from now on the mouse can go to the cat's home and feel in peace," the Duke of Ledebur-Wicelen said, with perhaps an unfortunate reference to *The Mouse That Roared*.

For their part the Czechs were ready to do a deal, set up a joint commission and pass the relevant act in parliament. But suddenly their country collapsed. The disputed lands — half the size of the principality itself — are claimed by at least 20 families, including an assortment of minor princelings. None now looks like getting vacant possession. The Duke of

Lebedeb-Wicelen

had been asked to be trampled on, he said that in matters of sovereignty, self-determination and real freedom, "even the smallest must be taken into consideration". No small detail of their particular concerns should be brushed aside by the larger powers.

For the next week or so he can forget his sovereign's property entanglements. So taken has he been with Finland that he is off on a camping holiday here with his wife and three children.



**Corruption scandal dogs Socialists****Mitterrand minister denounces judges**

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

A TEMPEST erupted in the French political world yesterday after news that the republic's third-ranking figure was about to be charged with corruption and an attack by the justice minister against power-mad investigating judges.

Outrage coursed through the corridors of the Mitterrand administration and the governing Socialist party after newspaper reports that Henri Emmanuelli, the Speaker of the National Assembly and a former minister, had been told he was to face charges of influence-peddling. Last night M Emmanuelli demanded an explanation for the report. His lawyers wrote to the magistrate: "We will act on this as we see fit."

The object of Socialist wrath was Renaud Van Ruybembe of Rennes, 40, a severe-looking father of seven and the latest in a line of *petits juges* to hound the high and mighty of the Fifth Republic. "We cannot fall under government by judges," Michel Vauzelle, the justice minister, said. He denounced M van Ruybembe for politically inspired public-mongering. "Democracy must not be imperilled by the dysfunction of an institution."

The case, which *Liberation*

likened to a multiple-warhead missile for the Socialists, involves the long-standing investigation into the illegal funding of the Socialist party's 1988 campaign, an explosive *affaire* which has defied the best efforts of the Mitterrand administration to stifle it through amnesty and pressure on prosecutors. M van Ruybembe took over the case after another zealous young "incurruptible" magistrate, Thierry Jean-Pierre, was taken off the last year.

What enrages the Socialists is the timing of a leak, published first in *Le Monde*, about M Emmanuelli's expected indictment for influence-peddling. It came just as the ruling party, weary from popularity and long years in power, was embarking on a congress in Bordeaux to chart a course for the Maastricht referendum in September and general elections next year.

The instigator of the leak, ministers and the party said in unison, was clearly the judge. Only last January, the day after he inherited the affair, M van Ruybembe staged a raid on the Socialist headquarters on the Rue Solferino and hauled away a vanload of documents, all in the midst of festivities for the handover of

the party leadership from Pierre Mauroy to Laurent Fabius.

Two such coincidences of timing from Pierre Bérégovoy, the prime minister, downwards, smacked of political sabotage, everyone said yesterday. M Bérégovoy recalled that he had embarked on a drive to purge political corruption from public life, but this was clearly a political move. "Enough is enough," said M Fabius, a former prime minister.

M Maury, another former prime minister, rallied his party and government behind M Emmanuelli last night and denounced what he called "this new form of McCarthyism" by investigating judges. "If M Emmanuelli is prosecuted, then the whole Socialist party should be prosecuted."

Their charges were still warm last night when the National Judges' Union accused the Socialists themselves of leaking word of the Speaker's imminent indictment.



Old friends: Mikhail Gorbachev, the former president of the Soviet Union, greets Vanessa Redgrave, the British actress, in his office at a political think-tank in Moscow. Miss Redgrave, a long-time member of the left-wing Workers' Revolutionary party, first visited Moscow in 1987, when she praised Mr Gorbachev's policy of glasnost and declared him to be one of her "revolutionary heroes".

**Young find market in Mao memories**

Mao Tse-tung is making a comeback with young people in Peking, with a premium on pin badges portraying him.

Tourists are not the only target. Encouraged by the recent public mania for laminated pictures of Mao, the Communist leader who died in 1976, and disco versions of songs praising him, youngsters are looting their parents' and neighbours' memorabilia for old pins to sell to Chinese collectors.

One peasant turned down £10,000 from an American tourist for his collection. Collecting Mao pins is not difficult – billions were made during the 1960s when virtually all Chinese had to wear them to show their political purity. Most have lain forgotten in drawers until now.

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, will make his first official visit to Norway next week at the invitation of the prime minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland, the government announced. A visit in 1990 was postponed at the height of German reunification.

The Italian singer Al Bano renewed his charge at a Rome court hearing that one of his songs, *Balala Swans*, had been plagiarised by pop star Michael Jackson. No decision has yet been reached.

The actor James Garner told *Parade* magazine in New York that advice from Charles Laughton got his career on track. He said Laughton told him in the 1950s his problem was that he was afraid to be bad – and he was right.

Bangladesh's ousted president, Hussain Ershad, al-

**Villains escape the dock**FROM MARY DEJEVSKY  
IN MOSCOW

THEY have tried hard to make it as low-key as possible, to hide it in thickets of legalistic terminology and to pretend that nothing special is happening. But even the least informed Moscow taxi driver will tell you, as he passes the inconspicuous turning to the Constitutional Court, that this is where the Soviet Communist Party is on trial.

Every day since Tuesday, from 10 to 6 with a two-hour lunch break, 13 black-robed judges have been hearing, and regularly interrupting, some of the finest and most telling courtroom oratory heard in Russia since the dissident trials of the 1960s. This time, however, it is the communist system that is in the dock.

Those who have come to answer for the party are either its more decent apologists or its more shameless believers. But they are not the people who dispatched the Babi and other nations to their death or signed away the money of the state. The real villains are mostly far away, a few are dead, and even fewer in prison. As so often, the "little" people are taking the flak, the cogs are being blamed, not the inventor, and not the machine that flouted all norms.

The "trial" has illustrated how diametrically opposed are the world views of those who lived their lives in the party's cocoon and those who set out to oppose it. The Communists concentrate on their "heroic" history: they rebuilt the country after wars; more communists than non-communists were lost at war and in the purges. For President Yeltsin's team, however, those very same "heroic" deeds proceed from the crimes of the party that flouted all norms.

**Seven satellites will take Tosca to world**

FROM PHILIP WILLIAN IN ROME

THE Three Tenors concert at the Baths of Caracalla in Rome two years ago during the football World Cup showed that opera could reach audiences world-wide, and ten million copies of the concert video were sold into the bargain.

Encouraged by this successful precedent, Italian state television and Andrea Andermann, an independent producer, have teamed up to bring the world *Tosca* in the *Settings and at the Times of Tosca*, which is to be broadcast live to more than 70 countries today and tomorrow.

The ambitious enterprise, costing about \$8 million, (£4.2 million) is being shot in the format of a film but will actually be a live performance. The technical challenges are daunting. Zubin Mehta will conduct the orchestra in a television studio while the protagonists, Plácido Domingo as the

**Students starve in Moscow**FROM ROBERT SEELY  
IN MOSCOW

STUDENTS from Third World countries are facing poverty and hunger in Moscow's grimy hostels, as living costs spiral in the Russian capital. The worst off, however, are more than 300 students from Ethiopia who have been camping in the grounds of their embassy for weeks. Yesterday they appealed for international help to ease their miserable conditions.

As well as the acute problem of finding enough to live on, many courses have become largely irrelevant since the collapse of communism.

Student numbers have risen, but only by an average of two to three times, while living costs have risen ten to 20-fold under price liberalisation. While most students at the Ethiopian embassy are from Moscow institutes, others have travelled thousands of miles from cities in the former Soviet Union to find shelter in the diplomatic compound.

The students now spend their nights camped in a hall at the embassy. Rations are limited to two thick slices of bread three times a day.

With extreme tact and politeness, the Ethiopian students explained that, although conditions are awful, they have not resorted to crime. "Although some may steal, we do not. It is not in our Ethiopian culture to do such a thing," said Debrework Yaelite, 32, a law student, who gets about £1 a month.

No

choice.

9 out of 10

building  
societies

Nine of the top ten building societies are tied to an insurance company. Bradford & Bingley isn't. So of the top ten only Bradford & Bingley can help you choose an investment or pension plan from any insurance company.

REGULATED BY S.I.B.

**say their  
customers  
prefer it.**

**BRADFORD & BINGLEY**  
BUILDING SOCIETY

JOYCE LISA

## Clifford Longley

**The church should not set such high standards for our sexual behaviour**

**T**he hunt for a new public sexual ethic is now raking through the debris of the old, to see what in traditional Christian morality might after all be worth keeping. The Methodist Conference, which met in Newcastle last week, and the General Synod of the Church of England, meeting in York today, are the latest to join the search. Even the Department of Health, with its talk of "sexual health", is interested in the outcome. The experiment of managing with no public sexual principles, when all was left to preference, lifestyle or "orientation", seems to have been abandoned, as a failure.

The Methodists have agreed a new statement about sex, marriage and the family, replacing a document dating from 1939. But it manifestly coasted over some of the trickier contemporary sexual issues. Younger speakers in the debate lamented the inadequacy of its treatment of the immorality of cohabitation. "People should have been affirmed in their existing lifestyles" said one politically correct but thoroughly old-fashioned young Methodist.

The synod tonight faces a similar challenge. Canon Michael Walter is inviting it to recognise "that it is now an accepted custom in England for couples to live together before marriage, while others express the intention never to be formally married". The House of Bishops, his resolution goes on, should give moral guidance to the nation about this, and advise the clergy how to treat parishioners in such situations — including the option, presumably, of "affirming them in their existing lifestyles".

**C**hristian sexual morality still represents the standards that society likes to admire. It speaks of love, trust and commitment in mature and lasting relationships and of support for family life. So if it is being rejected, that may be because it extols only one pattern as good and the rest as irredeemably bad. It says nothing except "don't" to homosexual, the divorced, the adolescent, the unmarried, and those living-together. But this is more the result of a particular methodology than a fault in content. There is nothing distinctively Christian, nothing biblical nor domineering, about the moral philosophy in which this teaching is traditionally set. It is a philosophy of perfectionism, which condemns all who do not meet its extremely high standards.

It presumably originates in the Judaic tradition of ritual purity, where one spot, actual or metaphorical, can render a person or thing unclean, polluted and useless. With that goes a half memory, lingering in European culture, of the medieval church's penitential codes, with precise penalties for every sin and the sharpest of lines between mortal sin (often sexual) and all other kinds. Grafted on to that in time were the Lutheran-Calvinist perceptions of human nature as "utterly depraved", making the moral life look as perilous and precarious as a tightrope above a seething furnace. Finally came the effort, in the 1753 Marriage Act, to enforce the public registration of marriage by abominating all alternatives.

**A**ll these things shaped the belief that being sexually correct was very difficult, and that the gateway to grace and salvation was impossibly straight and narrow. It was a formula not for happiness and fulfilment but for failure and guilt. What might a better Christian morality look like? It would continue to uphold the Christian ideal. Rather than deplored all approximations to it, however, they would be encouraged. A young woman progressing from sleeping with many men to sleeping with just one, then moving in with her boyfriend, then becoming pregnant and giving birth, then marrying, could be admired and congratulated at each step for moving in the right direction, commiserated with if ever she was forced to reverse her course. It would be a direction which did not necessarily have a final destination: nobody can claim to have completed a successful marriage, after all, until they die.

Under the perfectionism of traditional morality, however, such a woman (or man in a similar case) would be blamed for a series of sexual sins, and treated as somebody unworthy of Christian marriage because of her earlier shameful behaviour. But it is not what Christianity demands. And a progressive morality of good-bad is truer to how people intuitively feel about varieties of sexual behaviour.

**Many MPs dread retirement from Westminster's uproar, but Robert Rhodes James has no regrets**

**M**ost retiring MPs suffer acute withdrawal symptoms and find getting off the treadmill much more traumatic than getting onto it. They are those to whom politics, and above all the House of Commons, have been their lives, now suddenly confronted with empty days, silent telephones, a modest mail, and the indifference of the media. What local respect or odium, he may have acquired is abruptly transferred to his successor — who is, of course, not a patch on the retiring MP. I can understand why so many of my former colleagues suffer so terribly from deprivation of the very things they used to curse so passionately when they were eager participants in the Great Game.

I belong emphatically to the Hollis school, admittedly rather to my surprise, as I deeply enjoyed my 26 years in the House, first as a Clerk and then an MP for the incomparable city of Cambridge, whose history I am, *inter alia*, planning to write. To my genuine surprise I

**Commons — and left it.** For this group, life after politics is more like a return to real life. There is time for reading, thinking, for one's true friends, many of whom have been badly neglected as a result of the pressures of politics, proper holidays without a nagging sense of guilt, and a welcoming of the glories of the English summer and July rather than a fear and resentment of them.

An old friend, driving me past the Palace of Westminster, asked me what I felt. "Not a thing," I replied, and meant it. I had made elaborate plans for the next chapter in my life, and was eager to get on with them. Also politics never were my entire life, and the real friends I made on both sides of the House remain friends. And we still live in our beautiful house outside Cambridge. My wife has decreed that this will be the Year of the Garden, and our two new King Charles Cavalier spaniel

puppies frolic happily on the lawn, and are learning very quickly to be good dogs. My wonderful library study is at long last being repainted, and I am mentally planning a major reorganisation of my several thousand books and the necessary new shelves.

I have so many occupations, projects and possibilities that I am busier than ever — but constructively busy.

This is the real point. Although I was able to achieve a lot for my constituents over 15 years, the list of actual achievements, although rather more than most backbenchers, is depressingly small in comparison with the effort involved. The general run of most backbench

Randolph Churchill said that even to an inveterate gambler such as him, politics were the greatest gamble of all (and one which he so spectacularly nearly won, and then, even more sensationally, lost). But it is an equally enjoyable spectator sport, especially when you know the players so well, and it is more comfortable, as well as much safer, to be in the grandstand rather than on the pitch, being jostled and reviled for your pains.

I wish the present Members of Parliament well, but if I see some of them looking wistfully at me I shall understand. In the meanwhile, it is a glorious day, the pub is now open, and my little eager dogs need a walk. And when I hear on the radio that "The House sat late again", I know Hollis was right.

**Sir Robert Rhodes James was MP for Cambridge, 1976-1992.**

## Hell is an all-night sitting

## Can the young pretender win?

**Peter Stothard asks if next week's intense media exposure will boost or sink Bill Clinton**

**A**mong the lush woodlands of southern Arkansas, a few miles from Hope, the birthplace of Bill Clinton, Arkansas governor and Democratic frontrunner for the presidential nomination, is a field of deep-ploughed soil with the grand title: "America's only diamond mine". The local sport is to sit for hours here on a carefully selected rut and to crumble sods — an activity occasionally rewarded by gems such as the four-carat Kahn stone, worn on Hillary Clinton's ballgown.

"If only Bill Clinton were to spend next week here instead of at the Democratic convention," Bob Batt, an Arkansas supporter of Governor Clinton, told me, "his chances of seeing Hillary glitter at his own inaugural ball would be great. Instead, he will be in New York (he spits the word) and seen on TV surrounded by everything that makes him unelectable — sleaze, violence, sex and fat food."

Today Mr Batt's opinion is a minority one. Most Democrats are not complaining about Governor Clinton being shown in sharp a light. Instead they whine about media neglect by the big television networks, which, even before the convention begins, are charged with abnegating their public service responsibilities and failing to cover the convention with the comprehensive seriousness of the past.

But a few in the Clinton campaign do have sympathy with the diamond-mine view. While they do not want Arkansan obscurity for their convention, somewhere less combustible than New York suddenly looks very appealing. This is going to become an important question over the coming months of a three-way race.

Does Governor Clinton need more light or does he do better in the dark? Is he a born failure for the big stage who can best succeed by waiting in the wings for George Bush and Ross Perot to duet to the death? Or is the Arkansas governor now capable

of being revealed in all his post-primary glory, free of opponents, intra-party rows, sex scandals and all the other accretions of this extraordinary election year.

In the past few weeks, while Ross Perot and George Bush have held the headlines, Bill Clinton's poll ratings have soared. Conventional wisdom decrees that this ought to happen for a Democratic candidate when unemployment is rising across America, when the biggest states are suffering the worst, and California, the biggest state of all, has run out of tax money to pay its bills. But, as Bill Clinton's more realistic admirers admit, it would not necessarily have happened if the brightness of the media had been falling upon him. "It is part of Bill Clinton's character to be able to parry criticism with great skill," Mr Batt says. "But it is a bigger part of his nature to absorb stains that will not fade. That is his problem now."

**T**he official Clinton campaign affects to see things differently. Those Arkansans, say, are part of the past. The scandals are over. The primaries — with their need to defeat the pro-business Paul Tsongas one week and the anti-business Jerry Brown the next — are over. Remember too, they say, how the conventions have changed. Once upon a time the year's wheeling-dealing would all be done next week. Now it is the primary system which does the dirty work. Next week is to be a coronation: let the media shine in and curse them if they ignore our best side".

The political convention, a peculiarly American gift to politics, certainly has changed. When it was invented in 1831 by a group opposed to freemasonry, the reasoning was simply to find some way of selecting a presidential candidate for groups who lacked congressmen to do the job. William Wirt, the first candidate ever chosen by a convention, was an early prod-



At the 1976 Democratic Convention in New York Jimmy Carter coasted to victory and then won the presidency in November

uct of the misunderstanding and intrigue for which the process soon became notorious. He was actually quite sympathetic to freemasonry.

Eventually convention clashes became so unpredictable and bitter that ways had to be found to resolve disputes earlier. In 1924, New York played host to the longest convention in the Democratic party's history. After 17 days and 103 ballots between rival candidates from rural and urban America, the compromise victor was a certain John D. Davis, a man almost as unknown then as now, who subsequently suffered heavy defeat by the president, Calvin Coolidge. It has been rare since then for the system to break down so totally,

although the Chicago riots of 1968 did almost as much to destroy Hubert Humphrey's electoral prospects.

Today Democratic officials do not even contemplate such a disaster. The favoured New York model is not 1924 but 1976, when Jimmy Carter arrived with such overwhelming primary support that there were none of the bruising procedural battles (still less the street conflicts) of Chicago. Mr Carter was truly crowned in New York and went on to win nationally in November.

The Carter success was helped by New York but based on a clear philosophy of change that responded to the mood of post-Watergate America. The Clinton success, his supporters hope,

will also be based on a clear reforming message. The selection of Senator Al Gore as vice-presidential running mate is supposed to show that the time for policy tergiversations is over.

Governor Clinton, it is said, is no longer looking to outdo Jesse Jackson and Jerry Brown in inner-city spending promises. He can be himself — the moderate, southern Democrat who can woo the suburbs and the South and most of the blacks who bother to vote. The desired result would be a close win in a three-man race or an inconclusive election which hands on the anointment of President Clinton to a Democratic congress which ought to know its duty.

The professional Democrats of Arkansas are more confident this weekend than at any time since the days before the "Gates" sex allegations. They want the publicity next week because they believe that their candidate's poor reputation for honesty can be expunged by intensive exposure.

But back in the diamond mine, where Governor Clinton's amateur observers congregate, Mr Batt argues that the media will simply concentrate on trivia, such as the promised 50,000 AIDS protesters, Central Park fun-runs and free meals for delegates in New York's finest 100 restaurants. "Bill is going to be stuck up there like a bad come with a few pathetic props that make him look a fool. If only he were stuck down here instead."



...and moreover

### PHILIP HOWARD

**F**ukuyama's claim that history is dead was always a piece of book-seller's hype rather than the truth. History never looks like history when you are living through it. It always looks trivial and untidy, and it always feels uncomfortable. What is true is that one of the world's great historical works is in danger of dying from lack of funds. The *Victoria County History*, one of those encyclopaedic Victorian institutions like *The Oxford English Dictionary* and *The Dictionary of National Biography*, is seriously threatened by the recession, rate-capping, poll tax and the council charge. Local authorities, which have financed the VCH for almost a century, can no longer afford it.

Does it matter? Is not the vast historical encyclopaedia of every county, parish by parish, an irrelevant luxury in these times? Well, no, since you ask. History matters, in spite of the Visigoths of materialism, even if it does not appear to be superficially cost-effective. An individual or a nation that forgets its history is a rootless creature.

Anybody trying to write a decent book of local history consults as his or her primary sources first of all the relevant big red books of the VCH. Archaeologists, university lecturers, teachers of history and geography for the National Curriculum, if they have any sense, turn first to the VCH.

You cannot apply market forces to a long-term work of scholarship such as the VCH

because most of its market is not born yet. Volumes published a century ago are still heavily read. The only way we can repay the debt to those who produced the early volumes is to carry on the work for future generations. Charities and companies contribute a bit to the £94,000 a year it costs to keep the VCH afloat. But companies are reluctant to subscribe to something that they believe should be publicly funded, and where the publicity of sponsorship is confined to the thoughtful classes, and lies a long way in the future.

Most of what an individual or a county or a nation spends goes on ephemeral things. But we shall be judged by the long-term projects that we leave behind for our successors. So far, we are not doing too well in this line. Stansted airport, Canary Wharf and the Channel tunnel may give the future some idea of our priorities, but not a very obliging one. Some books, mainly of scholarship and biography, are being published which will still be read in the next millennium. I guess that paintings are being painted and music is being composed that will last, but they are not thick on the ground. Most architecture for our DIY and disposable society looks like Wimpy bars and is meant to be replaced within a generation. If we let inherited institutions like the London zoo and the VCH go down the pan, we are going to get a severe verdict from history.

Much guff is talked about Victorian values, by those who

have read no Dickens or Mayhew. But as far as they mean anything, they are taken to support the family, reliability and hard work. (They also mean a huge underclass, the workhouse, public executions and mass prostitution.) The VCH is very Victorian. It is produced by hard scholarly work, is as reliable as a metronome in publishing its volumes, 200 so far and another 200 to go, and is fascinated by families. It is Victorian in its comprehensiveness, its ambitious scale, and in its insane confidence that the results will have permanent

It covers most aspects of Englishness from wild flowers to far too much about fox-hunting in the early volumes. It is even fascinating for wordsmiths about the lingo. It has abandoned its more rebarbative technicalities, such as "levied a fine" and "suffered a recovery". But it can still draw fine distinctions, as between "widow", defining status, and "relief", defining relationship. Anne becomes a widow on her husband Bernard's death, but on marrying Charles ceases to be a widow while remaining Bernard's relief.

The VCH is one of the few things that we can be sure will be of lasting value a century from now. We should be wanton prodigals with our inheritance to let it sink for want of the triviality of a little money that would pay for a fin of Trident.

### Boxed-in Bosnian

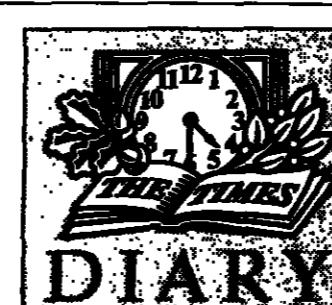
NO wonder President Izetbegovic of Bosnia appealed for military aid against the Serbs when he arrived at Helsinki for the Conference on Security and Co-operation. Not content with besieging his country, the Serbs had added insult to injury by stealing Izetbegovic's presidential Lear jet.

To the embarrassment of Izetbegovic and the denting of Bosnian pride, the Serbian hijack meant that when the president set out for Helsinki to rub shoulders with John Major and George Bush, he was reduced to sitting on an orange box in the back of a humble transporter.

Few of the other leaders were aware of the difficulties Izetbegovic had encountered in joining them. The Bosnian president had been forced to hitch a lift on the plane, part of the European Community's relief operation, which first had to be decanted of goats and chickens before he could make himself comfortable on his makeshift seat.

He had lost his jet when the two Serbian pilots, who had previously remained loyal, finally found it all too much. They took the presidential plane out of its hangar at Sarajevo airport, allegedly to investigate an engine fault. Security guards stood around oblivious as they taxied on to the runway for what appeared to be routine maintenance. Then, without warning, they switched to full throttle and took off over the Sarajevo skyline. The presidential plane, according to local reports, is now to be seen parked on the runway at Belgrade airport.

Izetbegovic is due in London shortly to meet Lord Carrington. Heaven knows whom he will hitch a ride with this time.



### Rowing boats

"Of all the ports in all the world, he has to go and sail into mine," Ali Fayed could have been forgiven for saying something similar on Thursday night. There was the chairman of House of Fraser, the teak schooner built by his grandfather at the turn of the century, nestled in the tiny harbour of Porto Cervo in Sardinia. Then in sail the *Hansa*, the floating palace of Tiny Rowland, archenemy of the Fayed since the Harrods take-over. Yesterday the crew of the *Hansa* were still awaiting their captain of industry's arrival. "All we need now is for the *Lady Gisela* to show up," says a spokesman for Fayed. "I don't think there will be an exchange of signals between the *Hansa* and the *Sakura* unless it is very short and to the point. But Fayed will be giving a cheery wave, particularly if the *Hansa* takes off in the direction of the Canary Isles."

• *Mixing with the likes of Steve Ovett, Frank Bruno and Henry Cooper at the Buckingham Palace lunch for British sporting champions this week was the unlikely and unassuming figure of Albert Dorman, The Times's bridge correspondent and reigning world seniors champion, with*

his partner, Alan Hiron, of The Independent. Did the genteel bridge-players not feel overawed among such muscular champions? "Not at all," says Dorman. "Bridge is not less vigorously contested than the physical sports. And we have our cerebral equivalent of shirt-tugging, not to mention the cynical foul. In many ways there is very little difference between the bridge table and the rugby scrum."



### MPs work up a sweat

WITH one eye on Virginia Bottomley's white paper on personal health, MPs are deciding whether they want to do it together. They are voting on a plan for mixed sauna sessions at the House of Commons gymnasium.

So far the steamy suggestion has met a mixed response. Edwina Currie, a regular at the gym, says: "It's an interesting proposition, but may have disadvantages. We already have mixed gym sessions, which cause all sorts of problems. When I get on the exercise bike after a male MP, it is invariably too high, and extremely uncomfortable. Mixed saunas sound fine, but it would depend on who was in there with you."

• *With McDonald's now safely established in Moscow, the Russians are promising shortly to unleash their very own contribution to the world of fast food, described by New Scientist as "a new type of hot take-away meal, produced by a fully automated process and guaranteed environmentally friendly". The name? The Peterburger, of course.*

### Pay the bill for Benn

NIGEL Benn starts a bout of serious training this weekend, armed with all his favourite sports car — a white Porsche. The former middleweight champion, who takes on Italian Mario Galvano in September, has lost his £30,000 roadster.

While it was undergoing minor repairs at a London garage, Patrick Moylett, a motor trader, drove the Porsche around to show it to his next door neighbour, who had heard it was up for sale. Moylett emerged to discover the vehicle had been stolen, and worse still, Benn was not comprehensively insured. Benn, not best pleased, called the dealer and asked him for immediate compensation. When a middleweight champion says cough up, only a fool argues and Moylett has duly paid.



## SAYING BOO TO INFLATION

The fall in June's rate of inflation, from 4.3 per cent to 3.9 per cent, was reported yesterday as one of the very few bright spots on an otherwise bleak economic horizon. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, pronounced the figures "excellent" and reiterated his commitment to low inflation as "the only secure route to healthy economic growth and permanently lower unemployment". Yet healthy economic growth has eluded the government for two years at least partly because of such statements. Economics is all about psychology. Is Mr Lamont reading the mind of the public wrongly?

Waiting for the recovery has become an almost Becketian game. Forecasters who predicted an upturn on the basis of increased spending power have been continually disappointed. The reason the economy has already dipped twice and may do a third time is that the public is frightened to buy things. You can put cash in people's pockets but you cannot make them spend.

The savings ratio — the proportion of income saved rather than spent — is now at its highest for ten years. People are paying off their debts or stashing their money away; they are not buying cars or washing machines. What might have been desirable in a boom is now proving deeply damaging.

Governments have ever fewer levers available to promote their economic objectives. With sterling in the exchange-rate mechanism, Mr Lamont is even more circumscribed. Assuming he will not take the "nuclear" option of pulling the pound out of the ERM, he cannot cut interest rates to stimulate growth. Nor can he embark on a giant programme of public spending; indeed, government expenditure rose so high before the election that he now needs to rein it in. So what is left?

Only exhortation; which may sound feeble, but is surprisingly effective when used with the grain. It is no use calling for low wage increases when the economy is booming and profitability is high. When times are hard, though, as Mr Lamont has already shown, employers will heed calls for wage

restraint and employees will understand that the only alternative is unemployment.

The Chancellor must now address people's fear of spending. Partly they are scared of losing their jobs. Unemployment is still rising, if less fast. But more generally, people feel poor and fear this will last. In the 1980s, they expected their earnings to rise rapidly (which proved correct for a time) and took on debts on that basis. By the early 1990s, they were hit by the double whammy of very high interest rates and lower wage increases. Wage settlements are now at only about four per cent, roughly half the rate of three years ago. This means that interest rates, in relation to the cost in most people's wages, are still as high as they were two years ago, at the top of the boom. Real interest rates are even higher if measured against the expectation of the still lower inflation of two per cent or less that Mr Lamont is holding out. No wonder people are more inclined to repay their debts than to spend.

The Chancellor needs to pull the public out of its slough. If he were to state that inflation was low enough for the time being and that wages were likely to rise soon by more than the rate of inflation, reflecting the productivity gains that accompany a recovery, people might believe that their real incomes will start to recover. If they then begin spending in the shops, the economy will pick up and the prophecy will be self-fulfilling.

The same should be true of companies. Investment plans have been put on hold until there are signs of improving demand. Low inflation may help companies' competitiveness, but that is little solace to the manager whose firm has been put out of business by high real interest rates, the weapon used to control inflation.

The inflationary monster has been slain, or at least scuttled for the moment. Mr Lamont needs to turn his attention to what should be the main goal of economic management: prosperity. That cannot be achieved until public confidence is restored. The Chancellor must now talk Britain out of its recession.

## THE LAW AS GOOD PARENT

Whether a 16-year-old girl should have the right to starve herself to death could keep late-night radio phone-ins busy for a fortnight. But for the three judges of the appeal court who gave their rulings in the case of an anorexic girl (identified only as J) yesterday, the issue was addressed simply as one of law. Fortunately they were able to bring the law round to a decision which most people will find humane. They announced at the end of last month that they were overturning her refusal of treatment. Yesterday they gave the legal reasons why.

For them the case was hardly about the rights of J at all. It is about something most of the public will never have heard of: the Crown's right as *parens patriae*, parent of the country, to act through the courts in place of and with wider powers than any individual parent. This is otherwise known to lawyers as the common law "inherent jurisdiction" of the High Court over minors, which is restrained only by various statutes.

Thus it fell to Lord Donaldson, the Master of the Rolls, together with Lords Justice Balcombe and Nolan, to act in the name of the Crown as the parents of J, who in fact has no parents of her own. As any good parent would, Lord Donaldson pronounced their duty to teenage children to be to give them as much rope as they can handle without an unacceptable risk that they will hang themselves". All he had to do was to find a legal basis for this sound rule.

Both statute law and previous cases seemed to establish there were circumstances where a 16 to 18 year old had a legal right to refuse treatment. But in this case it was one of the symptoms of the disease itself, anorexia nervosa, that it induced a wish for self-destruction. J was choosing to act against her own best interests, as the court saw it, and so as she was under 18 the court felt it had to go

against her will. Had she been over 18, short of circumstances in which the mental health acts could be invoked, J would have been free to dispose of her life as she wished. The treatment of anorexia nervosa, one of the most tragic afflictions facing modern medicine, is always complicated by the seeming death-wish of the patient, allied to a strong will to control the circumstances of her life. It would be illogical for a patient who refuses food with the intention of starving herself, to consent to treatment designed to frustrate her will.

But this opposition to treatment applies at any age. Anorexia nervosa and its opposite, bulimia, the over-eating disease, can afflict women well into their twenties. If it is correct to overrule J's self-destructive urges on the ground that she is only 16, why not overrule those of women of similar intelligence and maturity but two years or more older?

The law as defined by the Court of Appeal yesterday is no doubt open to various logical objections of this kind. None the less the court performed its duties as a parent in a way all parents will recognise and applaud. It decided what was in the best interests of the child in its care, on the common-sense and intuitive grounds all parents would use in such a case. Then it found good rational reasons to justify its decision.

Meanwhile J will receive treatment. She has indicated to the court through her lawyers that she will co-operate with her doctors now she knows the court is adamantly refusing to let her starve. It is that surrender of hers, far more than the 48 pages of legal technicality which the three judges issued yesterday, which proves their refusal was well judged psychologically, whatever the law. Sometimes it is the duty of parents, even of the appeal court acting in *parens patriae*, to be a little devious.

## THE COMPLEAT POACHER

Fishing is said to be the most popular participatory sport in the United Kingdom, though it would not be popular if fish screamed when hooked. And indeed one of the most characteristic sights of the modern English Sunday is the ranks of coarse fishermen sitting shoulder to shoulder along the banks of every river, reservoir, canal and flooded gravel pit, with their transistor radios and picnics and elaborate equipment beneath their big green umbrellas. One of the merits of fishing is that it gets the fishermen out of doors, to stare at liquid scenes more innocent, according to Lord Rees-Mogg, and more interesting, than most television programmes. Another is that there are no limits to the number of new toys invented for the pursuit of fish: a fisherman is the easiest man to find a birthday present for.

The ultimate fishing gadget has been invented in superbait, guaranteed to drive any fish in the water to impale itself on a hook. All fishermen believe in this fisherman's touchstone, from adder's spawn from their viperous womb unthinkingly ripped to secretly tied flies infallible on certain water in certain conditions. But until now they have never found it. Now a neuro-physiologist at Louisiana State University has concocted a cocktail of amino acids that drives fish into a frenzy of biting so that they snap at anything. It can be smeared on a worm or a spinner or a fly, or scattered as crazy bait, or activated by a slow-release mechanism attached to the hook. By any method, it is said to take the wading out of fishing and the fangling out of angling. If there are fish down there, they will bite. The invention will soon be marketed under the rebarbative name of Gotta Bite.

This is a recurrence of the ancient delusion

of the philosopher's stone or the three magical wishes that always go wrong. In fantasy, it would be marvellous if everything a man touched turned to gold. In practice, he would break his teeth and then starve. The point of fishing is not catching fish, which in English waters are mostly nasty, bony, and muddy. It is in the chase, not the catch, which is usually thrown back as inedible.

No fish is as desirable as the one that got away. No man can lose what he has never caught. The muddly pleasure of fishing lies in the cunning pursuit, not the catch — at least that is what fishermen always say, and fishermen are notorious liars. And if you were to take away the lies about the ones that got away, because the biggest fish were always caught by superbait, you would take away the poetry from the sport.

In fantasy, a computer's instantaneous calculation of the permutations and consequences of any move at chess would be a super weapon. In practice it would destroy the great game, by removing the elements of doubt and cunning. Cricket would cease to be fun for a batsman who could see every ball as big as a football and as slow as the sun before he hit it over the stand. What is the point of golf, if every putt inevitably goes in?

According to the fishy philosopher, angling may be said to be so like mathematics that it can never be fully learnt. Once the chance has gone, so has the pleasure of the hunt. The odd thing about the occupation is that the fisherman never wants to go home. If he catches anything, he cannot stop. If he does not catch anything, he hates to leave in case something might bite. Hell may be to be granted one's heart's desire. Hell for fishermen as well as fish would be superbait.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

1 23  
992  
S

### Brush-off for UK over subsidiarity?

From Mr Stephen B. Hornsby

Sir, The chances of subsidiarity becoming a bulwark against the intrusion of EC institutions into every aspect of national life (letters, July 9) are significantly weakened when member states, such as the UK, which profess to support the principle are willing (and even happy) to let the European Court of Justice pronounce on issues that are clearly of purely national concern.

In a letter to *The Times* on December 10, 1991, Angela Rumbold, then minister of state at the Home Office, said that "neither the government nor Parliament can decide with confidence on the options for reform [of the Shops Act 1950] until the questions referred by the House of Lords to the European Court of Justice have been resolved".

Now, as a result of the advocate-general's opinion (report, July 9), it seems likely that the European Court of Justice will shortly reiterate the legally obvious position that it has adopted on several occasions, namely that the legality of non-discriminatory Sunday trading laws falls within the exclusive competence of the member states.

The government must surely now decide to reform the Shops Act. In the meantime, at a less parochial level, our European partners and the European Court of Justice will note the disparity between the UK government's words and deeds on this issue and ask themselves whether a plea for subsidiarity on other issues (perhaps of much greater moment) deserves to be taken as seriously as the UK would like it to be.

Yours sincerely,  
STEPHEN HORNSBY,  
Dibb Lupton Broomhead  
(Solicitors),  
Fountain Precinct, Balm Green,  
Sheffield,  
South Yorkshire.  
July 10.

From Sir Michael Grylls, MP for Surrey North West (Conservative)

Sir, The word subsidiarity is much used and much misunderstood. The founding fathers of the United States appear to have understood correctly that good government is achieved when responsibility is handled at the lowest possible level. In other words, what people can do for themselves they must do.

What we cannot do we pass on to the next highest level. For example, people cannot put in their own streets or sewers, so the city does it. What the city cannot do the state does, and so on.

Let the EC leaders ponder the wisdom of the founding fathers. Brussels must be given authority only when the problem cannot be solved at national or local-government level. The enforcement of the measures necessary for the proper functioning of the internal market is one such example in which authority needs to be ceded to the centre.

In order to avoid endless squabbles and friction over the division of responsibilities a European Magna Carta should be drawn up, enshrining once and for all the very few functions which need to be controlled by Brussels.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL GRYLLS,  
House of Commons.

From Mr Christopher Jackson, MEP for Kent East (European People's Party (Conservative))

Sir, The word subsidiarity still creates difficulty. The alternative of "minimum interference", apparently favoured by the foreign secretary, has a negative connotation which I dislike, as though any action is interference.

I propose that we call it "the principle of decentralisation", which is close to the real intention without implying that nothing at all should be done centrally.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON,  
8 Wellmeade Drive,  
Sevenoaks, Kent.

From Mrs Mary Bone

Sir, The Royal Institute of International Affairs' *Chronology of the Second World War* records that church bells were rung throughout the country on November 15, 1942, to celebrate victory in North Africa (Mrs Marshall's letter, July 4).

Surely Sunday, November 15, 1992, is the day on which church bells should be rung to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary? There is even a bellringing method named Montgomery.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY BONE,  
11 Bullfields,  
Bawdsey, Suffolk.

From Mr Geoffrey Miller

Sir, To describe the second battle of El Alamein as "the turning point of the whole war" (Mr Talbot's letter, July 4) is surely nonsensical. What of the Battle of Britain, the Battle of the Atlantic, and, above all, Stalingrad?

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY MILLER,  
The Manor House, Flamborough,  
Bridlington, East Yorkshire.  
July 7.

Family money letters, page 30

### Apes, rhinos and others lose a home

From Mr Mick Carman

Sir, As the head keeper for apes and monkeys at London Zoo, I would like to clarify one or two points made in Valerie Grove's interview with Gerald Durrell (*Life & Times*, July 3).

Mr Durrell, quite rightly, says that "our national zoo should be in the forefront of breeding programmes for big beautiful animals like the rhinoceros". In fact, London Zoo is in the forefront: we have bred more Decimus Burton — the ravens' aviary (1827), the camel house (1830) and the giraffe house (1836), all within Burton's original 1827 layout — must be preserved at all costs, even if more appropriate locations are found for the present inhabitants.

Both Jersey and London zoos are doing major conservation work in captivity and in the field. Last week the keepers in the Sobell pavilions for apes and monkeys held an open evening and raised £1,000 for a drill rescue centre in Nigeria (drills are large mandrill-like primates and are seriously endangered). In previous years Sobell open evenings have raised money for mountain gorillas, and a Gambian chimp rehabilitation project.

Mr Durrell mentions his trip to Madagascar to capture lemurs — an essential move, as setting up breeding groups of this sort of animal in captivity is probably the only way to ensure its survival. But had London Zoo sponsored such an expedition there would have been an outcry from the anti-zoo organisations.

One feels that the fact that London Zoo is seen as fair game for attack, while Jersey is rarely criticised, is not due to different aims or facilities of the two establishments, but because London is seen as a faceless institution, while Jersey is seen as intricately linked with Mr Durrell, a thoroughly nice man, whom nobody would wish to criticise.

If London Zoo does close down, will the big anti-zoo guns then be turned on zoos like Jersey? And if so, will that ultimately mean not only the end of the genus *Zero* but the end of the species which rely on zoos for their survival?

Yours faithfully,  
MICK CARMAN  
(Head Keeper, Sobell Pavilions for Apes and Monkeys),  
Zoological Society of London,  
Regent's Park, NW1.  
July 6.

### Alamein anniversary

From Mrs Rosemary Mills

Sir, I was glad to discover that there are people who feel strongly that there should be a service of thanksgiving to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of El Alamein (letters, June 27, July 4).

The battle was certainly a turning point in my life. My twin brother and I were only two months old at the time. Our father was killed during the battle (aged 22), never having seen us, leaving a widow of 20 with three children of under 18 months.

Due to lack of financial support, the family had to be split up. My twin brother and I were adopted together, through contacts arranged by the wife of the colonel of the Sherwood Rangers (our father's regiment). We have since traced my mother and elder brother, but all four of us have never been together in 50 years.

My father's remains, of course, are buried in the desert at El Alamein cemetery. I have been trying to find some appropriate way for the four of us, together, to commemorate his death and the great battle, and would welcome a national thanksgiving which we could all attend.

Yours sincerely,  
ROSEMARY MILLS,  
6 Porthgwydd,  
Feock, Truro, Cornwall.  
July 5.

From Mrs Mary Bone

Sir, The Royal Institute of International Affairs' *Chronology of the Second World War* records that church bells were rung throughout the country on November 15, 1942, to celebrate victory in North Africa (Mrs Marshall's letter, July 4).

Surely Sunday, November 15, 1992, is the day on which church bells should be rung to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary? There is even a bellringing method named Montgomery.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY BONE,  
11 Bullfields,  
Bawdsey, Suffolk.

July 10.

From Mr R. J. Cole

Sir, Mr Storer (letter, July 6) should not draw any comfort from the fact that, as he seems to suppose, his new cordless telephone will scramble his calls to prevent conversations being easily intercepted. The method is a safeguard against the radio equivalent of a crossed line.

Throughout a call the handset and the base station transmit a code to each other. If the wrong code is received (and there are 65,536 variations) because another handset and base station are using the same

channel, the call will be disconnected.

This prevents inadvertent use of another base station in the vicinity on the same channel and hence charging to the wrong telephone account. It is not a safeguard against fraudulent use because the transmitted code could be recorded and programmed into another handset, and only a fully timed bill would show these calls.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD COLE,  
New Court, Temple, EC4.  
July 7.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

### Media monitor SS crowds (3,2,5,10)\*

From Mr L. J. C. Evans

Sir, I suspect that the characteristics attributed to Mr Bryan Sanderson (letter, July 6) to the typical addict of your crossword may more properly belong to the compiler.



THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

19

## OBITUARIES

## ANNE, COUNTESS OF ROSSE

Anne, Countess of Rosse, mother of the Earl of Snowdon, died on July 3 at Nymans, Sussex, aged 90. She was born on February 8, 1902.

**GRAND-DAUGHTER** of the Punch cartoonist and early photographer, Edward Linley Sambourne, Anne Messel married first Ronald Armstrong-Jones and then the 6th Earl of Rose. In her own right she was one of Britain's most distinguished gardeners and a keen conservationist. In London her great achievement was the preservation of the intensely Victorian 18 Stafford Terrace.

Anne Messel descended from a German family, her grandfather Ludwig coming to England and setting up as a successful stockbroker. Others were architects and her great-uncle Rudolph was a distinguished scientist, who bequeathed a million pounds to the Royal Society. They married into a literary family which included Sheridan and Thomas Linley, composers.

Nymans, the house in Sussex, was bought by Ludwig Messel in 1890. Thus the family had been there for more than a century and house and garden have been nurtured by grandfather, father and, latterly, Lady Rosse herself. She was raised there and thoroughly trained by the Nymans' plantsman, James Coomber, whom she described as "a terrifying Mr Macgregor". He once kept her hard at work for a whole day tying up wall-plants with reef knots. When her father cleared the gorse covers for the latest batch of rhododendrons from Tasmania and Chile, an act that greatly irritated the local hunt, the infestation raged so hard that the three Messel children were almost burned in the fray.

There was Linley, Anne, and her younger brother, Oliver, who raised the art of stage design to match the performance being given on stage and sometimes surpassed it. Anne was born at 27 Gloucester Terrace, London. Soon afterwards the family moved to 104 Lancaster Gate. As a child she gazed at the passing carriages in the Baywater Road and apparently could see the cupolas and chimneys of Kensington Palace, without knowing the significance it would play in her family's later life.

The Messels also had a country home, Balcombe House, near St



Leonard's Forest, but Nymans was always their favourite. Lady Rosse wrote of it: "Little else than farm carts, dog carts, and the carriages of the local gentry disturbed the quiet lane... The Weald and woodlands belonged to themselves and to the neighbourhood, to live in peacefully, to farm in and to enjoy. Sundays were kept as Sundays should be, then, and farmers tossed their hay on summer evenings in linen smocks."

She was educated at home by a governess and in June 1922 was presented at court, already very pretty with her dark brown eyes. Anne

met her first husband, Ronald Armstrong-Jones, through her brother Linley. They had been at Eton together and Linley invited him to Nymans in 1924 to ask his advice about the estate. Anne and Ronald were married in St Margaret's, Westminster, in July 1925, the occasion made memorable by the imaginative artistic touches of her brother, Oliver.

Her father, Colonel Messel, gave the young couple the lease of 25 Eaton Terrace, with a suitable endowment. It was soon adorned under Oliver Messel's baroque influence, tempered with the white of

Syrie Maugham. They had two children, Susan (the late Viscountess de Vesci) born in 1927, and Antony (the present Lord Snowdon) in 1930.

During these years Anne took a prominent part in English social life. She was photographed by many of the great photographers of the day, often in an arcadian setting. As she veered more to the aesthetic tastes of her younger brother and his friends, so Ronald Armstrong-Jones became more serious and disappointing. His love for fishing and wild-fowling were not hers. Neither did his precision and desire for punctuality trim well with her heady social life. In 1933 they agreed to separate and in due course divorce followed.

Anne found long and lasting happiness with the Earl of Rosse, a man 10 years her junior. He had worshipped her since he was 18 and now he was able to claim her. In *The Letters of Evelyn Waugh* the editor, Mark Amory, revealed that this romance had endured difficult moments in Venice. "The Countess of Rosse stepped innocently on to a balcony with another man. Though they were not yet married, the jealous Earl of Rosse boxed her ears with some violence. When he sent long-stemmed tuberoses in apology, they were returned." Anne married Rosse in September 1935 and they had two sons, the elder of whom is the present Earl of Rosse.

Lord Rosse gave her the possibility of leading a yet more romantic life in his Gothic Irish castle, Birr, and at Womersley Park in Yorkshire, homes to which she had access for the rest of her life. Birr she adored, particularly the ancient staircase made of yew. Here young Tony Armstrong-Jones played and rowed on the lake and here too, later, he recovered from the polio which threatened his walking. It was Lady Rosse who gave her son his first camera, though she preferred the idea of his being an architect. Nevertheless she delighted in his success in his chosen profession.

During these years her parents lived on at Nymans, which was bequeathed to the National Trust in 1933. However, it remained her home and she and Lord Rosse not only preserved but nurtured it. Rosse continued the tradition of financing Far Eastern expeditions

to bring experimental cuttings back to this country. As a gardener and householder, Lady Rosse believed that both house and garden should reflect "the personalities and whims of those who have trod its paths and the aspirations of its makers and improvers, mirroring a glimpse from each generation, that time and growth have moulded into a harmonious whole."

Though Nymans had a large garden, it retained an air of intimacy. The house, formerly of a modest Regency design, had been subtly converted to seem like a fourteenth century building, added to intermittently. When fire destroyed part of the old Great Hall in 1947, it was left a part run, with an abundance of honeysuckle, roses, and *lantana* climbing in and out of the empty windows.

Lady Rosse was fortunate to possess a happy combination of Messel money and Sambourne taste to aid her in her work in the garden. Her husband shared her love of it and they relished their own expeditions to Portugal and the United States in search of plants. In recent years Nymans was run by six National Trust gardeners, overseen by Lady Rosse.

Socially she occupied a rare position. She was grand and very pretty. Society was occasionally disapproving about her. Evelyn Waugh referred to her in his diaries as "Tugboat Annie". And due to an ancient jealousy with Oliver Messel, she became the butt of Cecil Beaton's malice.

Yet she possessed a rare serenity, choosing to remain aloof from the world, planting her garden, dwelling on the past, writing letters to friends very early in the morning, and designing her own hand-made Christmas cards. She savoured the life she had shared with Oliver and others in the knowledge that, however displeasing the books written about them, nobody could take her memories from her. She was a good and generous hostess, serving strong drinks, notably Lord Rosse's Bacardi cocktail: two parts Bacardi, one Dubonnet, one orange and much sugar.

In her late eighties she retreated to Nymans, dwelling serenely in a world of her own. Lord Snowdon had a cottage on the land, likewise a welcome retreat from a busy life.

## JAMES CRESPI

(Caesar) James Crespi, QC, a recorder of the Crown Court, died on July 4 aged 65. He was born on June 25, 1927.

**JAMES** Crespi had one of the most brilliant minds at the criminal bar and was one of its outstanding characters. He was almost as well known out of court as in it. His plump, sometimes dishevelled appearance invited comparison with John Mortimer's creation Rumpole of the Bailey. But intellectually, physically, and professionally his stature was larger than that of the good Horace. He also normally appeared for the prosecution.

Friends and colleagues referred to him as "Johnsonian" as he held court, first in early evening at El Vino's, then at the Garrick, where he tended to dine three nights a week. He loved good food, fine wines and human fellowship and was a legendary, often inventive, raconteur.

Crespi never owned a television set but was a devoted listener to the radio. He was never to be disturbed on Sunday mornings, when he caught up with the omnibus edition of *The Archers*. He never learned to drive but travelled everywhere by taxi and was a familiar face to London cabbies.

When not at the Garrick or tuning in to BBC Radio he read widely outside his subject and also wrote. His favourite subjects were Ancient Rome, in particular the Punic Wars — on which he was permanently engaged in writing a new history. He filled one exercise book after another though, as his handwriting was quite indecipherable, his chances of publication seemed remote.

His failure to be made a full-time judge disappointed and perplexed his fellow advocates. For the last 19 years, however, he might well have counted himself lucky to be alive. A casualty of the IRA's Old Bailey bomb in March 1973, he was rushed to St Bartholomew's Hospital with more than 60 shrapnel splinters in him, including one lodged behind an eye.

He practised on the south-eastern circuit, soon becoming a familiar figure at the Old Bailey. Among his cases was the 1968 trial of the Kray twins, in which he appeared as a counsel for the prosecution. He was made a Crown Court recorder in 1973 and took silk nine years later.

James Crespi, who made an unhappy marriage many years ago, is survived by a married sister.

ing his vital organs from the blast. He carried some shrapnel with him to the end: his surgeon said that to find it all would have needed an archaeological expedition.

His qualifications for the bench were never in question. On the occasions when he sat as a recorder, the quality of his summings-up at the Old Bailey and the common sense and compassion of his sentencing made him seem a natural candidate for promotion.

But his health (he was a chronic asthmatic) and eccentricities probably told against him in the Lord Chancellor's office assessments. He once set himself on fire while in court through his habit of stowing away his pipe while it was still alight.

His many engagingly English characteristics belied his antecedents. He was born Cesare Giacomo Crespi, the son of an orchestral conductor in Milan. But he came here as a baby, aged nine months, when his father set up in business in this country. Although he anglicised his name while growing up, he was always known as "Cesare" to his family.

He went to the City of London School during the war when the school had been evacuated to Marborough, and moved from there to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he took a starred first in law. He then taught for a time at the University College



of Wales, Aberystwyth, before being called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1951.

He practised on the south-eastern circuit, soon becoming a familiar figure at the Old Bailey. Among his cases was the 1968 trial of the Kray twins, in which he appeared as a counsel for the prosecution. He was made a Crown Court recorder in 1973 and took silk nine years later.

James Crespi, who made an unhappy marriage many years ago, is survived by a married sister.

## KELVIN COE



Kelvin Coe, OBE, Australian ballet dancer, died in Melbourne on July 9 aged 45 of an AIDS-related illness. He was born in Melbourne on September 18, 1946.

Kelvin Coe was in temperament and style entirely typical of the breed of Australian male dancers which has arisen over the last couple of generations. Tough and athletic, he combined a forthright manner with an expressive grasp of character. He attracted attention for the brightness of his virtuosity and the vividness of his dramatic flair: qualities which quickly took him to the top of his profession.

Having studied dance as a boy in Melbourne (tap dance first, then ballet from the age of 12), Coe reached his 16th birthday just as the Australian Ballet was preparing its first season in 1962. At that time any male dancer was welcome, let alone one with his obvious promise. Coe became a founder member. By the time the company made its first visit to Britain less than three years later, Coe already stood out as one of the soloists in the production of *Raymonda* which Nureyev mounted for them here, dancing in the celebrated male *pas de quatre* and also appearing as one of the two troubadours. That role entailed measuring himself.

Jump for jump, with Nureyev, a task in which he did not disgrace himself.

Soon choreographers were creating roles for him: Robert Helpmann in *Sun Music*, Igor Moisseiev in *The Last*

*Vision*. When Ashton's *The Dream*, *Les Patineurs* and *Les Rendezvous* entered the repertoire, he was the obvious choice for the leading male roles. Roland Petit cast him as Don José in *Carmen*.

His range extended to the big romantic leads in *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, where many leading ballerinas were grateful for his exceptionally strong

partnering. But he was at his best in parts calling for more extrovert display, especially if they afforded scope for his gift for comedy, such as Colas in Ashton's *La Fille mal gardée*.

A perfectionist by nature, Coe burnished his technique with further study in Paris under Raymond Franchette and in 1973 he won the silver medal in the Moscow International Ballet Competition. That brought him guest engagements, starting at the Bolshoi in Moscow and including a season with the London Festival Ballet in 1974.

Coe's first loyalty remained with the Australian Ballet and their visits to London over the years allowed audiences here to watch his development, from an exhilarating account of Basilio in *Don Quixote* (sharing the role with Nureyev in 1973) to an effusively bustling Camille de Roussillon in *The Merry Widow* (1976), and more recently the adult in Graeme Murphy's *Beyond Twelve*, which he danced at Covent Garden in 1988.

That was one of several roles he played for Murphy, both with his home company and with Murphy's Sydney Dance Company, starting with *Homelands* which was made specially for him in 1982. Other choreographers for whom Coe worked included John Butler, Ronald Hynd, Gillian Lynne, Barry

Moreland and Glen Tetley. As his artistic range grew, Coe's youthful energy inevitably declined and he commented意味fully that "you have to work twice as hard to get the same effect... Classical dancing is something the human body is not designed for".

Consequently he withdrew from regular appearances, but continued his connection with dance as a full-time teacher at the Australian Ballet School from 1986, where he expected the highest standards from his pupils. He was also from 1987 to 1990 director of the Dancers Company, and co-director last year. It was formed to undertake annual tours to bring ballet to the smaller Australian towns and to give stage experience to young dancers and senior students from the school.

Coe's last stage appearance was as an ugly sister with Ray Powell in Powell's production of *Cinderella* for the school last December.

Coe had a surprisingly quiet manner off stage and was much liked by his colleagues for his easy-going, optimistic temperament.

Former dancers and friends rallied to give him constant support and company during the final stages of his illness. The Australian ballet dedicated their performance at the London Coliseum on July 9 to his memory. He was appointed OBE in 1980.

## James Todd

JAMES Carter Todd, a former US military attaché to Hungary who was detained during the Cold War and accused of spying, has died aged 78.

Todd was detained in 1957

by Hungarian soldiers and

accused of spying on an airfield. He was released after five hours of questioning and formal charges were not filed until he had left Hungary.

Todd, who fought in Europe during the second world war with the 82nd Airborne Division, retired from the army in 1962 as a colonel.

## July 11 ON THIS DAY 1924

The grouping of the railways of Great Britain in the early 1920s and the possibility of national ownership and workers' control were discussed at this NUR congress. James Figgins (1893-1956), later to be the union's general secretary, spoke strongly for the "expropriation of the expropriators without compensation or dividends".

## "BRITISH NATIONAL RAILWAYS."

DEBATE BY THE N.U.R.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

YORK, July 10.

Though the National Union of Railways' Congress attempted to express its mind today on such subjects as railway grouping, national ownership and workers' control, the debate in public at the morning session lacked direction and was practically about the weather. Far the type of resolution, nor a Committee amendment, placed the Congress as a whole, and there was a substantial majority for sending both resolution and amendment to the Standing Orders Committee for redrafting.

Even about that procedure some members of the Congress had their doubts.

Meanwhile, the chief interest for the general public in this morning's rather mutual improvement society sort of discussion is in the indication it gave of the various ideas now moving in the minds of British railwaymen. The Standing Orders Committee, seeking to focus what they believed to be the general opinion, and as it turned out not quite succeeding in doing so, turned over the following resolution:

"That this Congress, having reviewed the working of the railways since the grouping or

## Anniversaries

Today BIRTHS: Robert the Bruce VIII, King of Scotland 1306-29, 1274; Luis de Góngora y Argote, poet, Cordoba, Spain, 1583; John Quincy Adams, 6th president of the USA 1825-37, 1877; Quincy, Massachusetts, 1767.

DEATHS: Charlie Mackin, actor-manager, London, 1797; William Ernest Henley, poet, London, 1903; Alfred Dreyfus, French army officer who was wrongly imprisoned in Devil's Tower, Paris, 1925; George Gershwin, composer, Hollywood, 1937; Sir Arthur Evans, archaeologist, Youghal, Cork, 1941; Barbara Wootton, Baroness Wootton of Abinger, sociologist, 1968; Laurence Olivier, Baron Olivier, actor-manager, first director of the National Theatre, 1963-73, 1969.

The English and allies led by Edinburgh and Parisian Eugene de Beauharnais defeated the French at the battle of Oudenarde, 1793. Captain Cook sailed from Plymouth on his last expedition, 1770.

Tomorrow BIRTHS: Julius Caesar, Rome, 100 BC; Josiah Wedgwood, 1730; Henry Dearborn, writer, Concord, Massachusetts, 1817; George Eastman, pioneer of photography, New York, 1854; Stephen

## Women priests

SYNOD TO GIVE CLUE TO FINAL VOTE

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE intense lobbying over women priests enters a new phase today as the summer meeting of the general synod of the Church of England opens at York University. The first clear indication of how the final decision in November will go is expected in a vote by clergy, bishops and laity.

Advertisements in the church press yesterday put the case for both sides. Each is battling for the souls of the handful of synod members who will determine the outcome.

The synod is preceded this morning by meetings of the convocations and the house of laity to proceed to the final vote, where it needs a two-thirds majority. While at least two-thirds of the bishops and clergy are thought to be in favour, a handful of undecided lay churchmen could swing the November vote either way.

The Movement for the Ordination of Women in full-page advertisements in *The Church of England News* and *Church Times*, claims spiritual and practical benefits in the churches where women are ordained.

The advertisement says: "In 1976, when the Episcopal Church in the USA started ordaining women priests, about 1 percent of churchgoers left in protest. In the years since, congregations have grown by 23 percent."

Hume regrets, page 5  
Clifford Longley, page 16

# Lawyer forces review of law on clamping

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

The government is to investigate the activities of private clampers after a barrister found a way through the legal minefield which could help motorists reclaim their cars without paying fines to security firms.

Motoring organisations and MPs have led the outcry over clamping companies which impound cars and demand release fees. Courts in Scotland have ruled it illegal to clamp a car parked on private ground and then to demand a fine. However, there has been no legal precedent in England and Wales, until the case of Nicholas Bowen came to light this week. Now the government wants to clarify the law on clamping.

Mr Bowen, a barrister at Bedford Row Chambers, London, left court in Bournemouth only to discover his car, parked on waste ground, had been clamped. Signs warning of private clamping were either above eye level or near to the ground and hidden by another car, he said.

Mr Bowen said that Michael Raven White, of Freshwater Security, asked for £50 to remove the clamp, but refused a cheque backed with a banker's card. The security firm then warned Mr Bowen the car would be towed to Christchurch for a further fee of £115, plus £25 a day parking, if the clamping charge was not paid in cash.

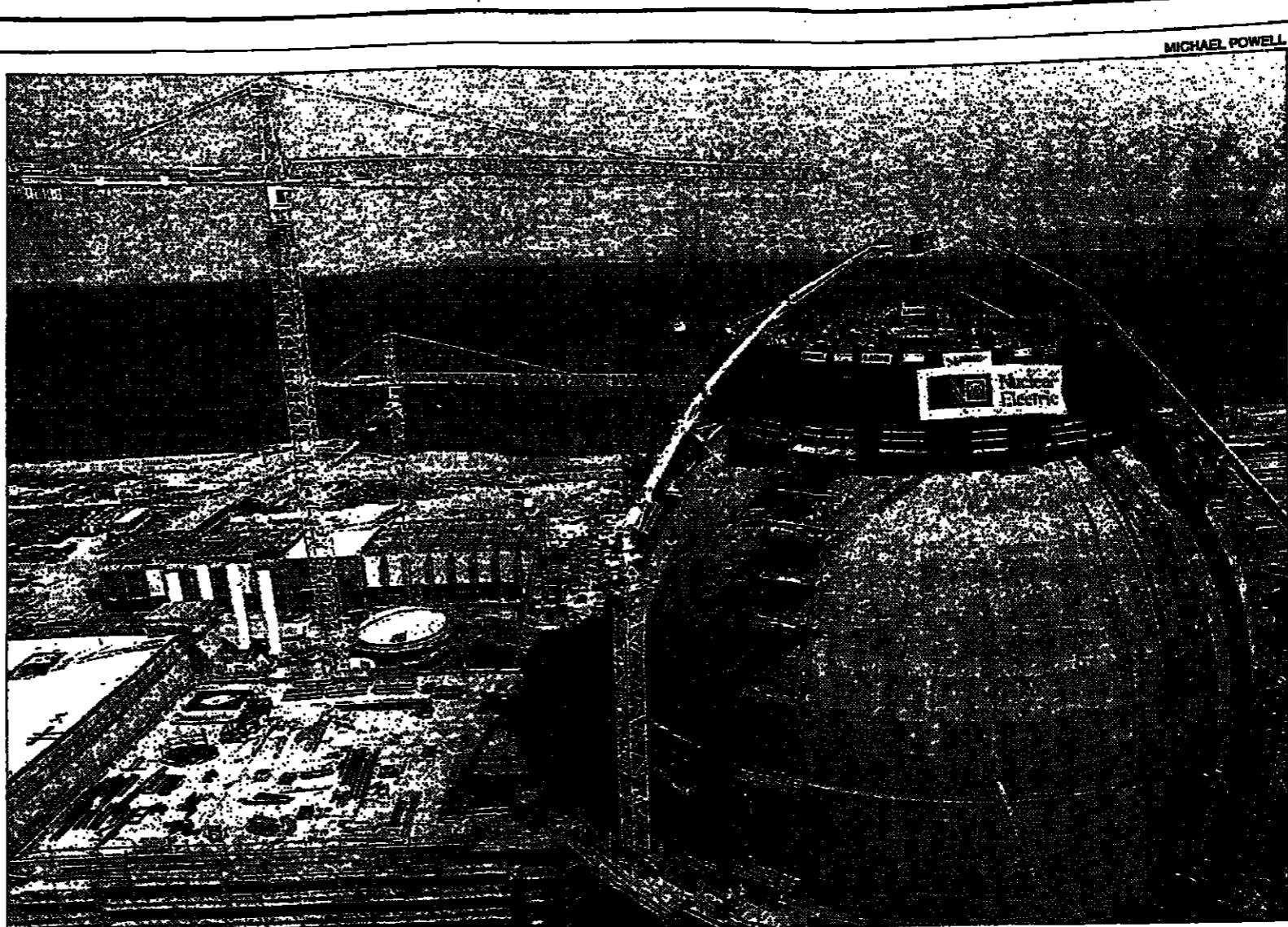
Mr Bowen went back to Bournemouth County Court to procure an order under the

Torts (Interference with goods) Act 1977 ordering the immediate release of the car. Mr Bowen said last night: "Under this Act, goods that have been impounded unlawfully can be ordered to be returned straight away. I argued that, because the demand for money was backed up by an immediate threat to tow away my car with a charge, then this was a menace, and therefore unlawful."

Mr White appeared in court before agreeing to release the car without any charge. He could not be contacted for comment last night.

However, the case will be studied by the Automobile Association, which has been searching for a test case which would give motorists a chance to hit back at cases of unfair clamping. The case is also certain to be studied at the transport department after Kenneth Carlisle, the minister for roads, ordered an investigation to clarify the law on clamping.

The government and the police have in the past refused to become entangled in what is considered purely a civil matter in which clampers impound cars parked on private land. There is no suggestion yet that Mr Bowen's case will provide an answer. The barrister admitted that his knowledge of the law and his determination not to pay the clamping fee led him to go to court. "Anyone could do what I did although they might need a solicitor."



Powerhouse: the vast concrete dome of Sizewell B on the Suffolk coast is one and a quarter times the diameter of St Paul's Cathedral

## Leasing scheme planned for rail

Continued from page 1  
British Rail from borrowing on the financial markets to finance leasing agreements, for fear it would undermine government attempts to control public spending.

The white paper proposals, the broad outlines of which were foreshadowed in the Conservative election manifesto, call for BR to be divided into two authorities, one owning the infrastructure and the other operating the services.

BR's freight and parcels divisions will be sold to the private sector, along with commercially viable stations. Private companies will be able to bid for franchises to run passenger services on BR's tracks, effectively reducing BR to the status of a state-owned track authority.

Because of the new opportunities presented by the opening of the Channel tunnel and the development of new technologies for com-

bined road-rail transport, private sector interest in BR's freight operations could be considerable. Declining receipts from passengers are likely to ensure, however, that private sector interest in BR's passenger services will be limited to a handful of routes which have benefited from new investment in recent years, such as the Thames and Chiltern line between London, Aylesbury, and Oxford.

## West to open Bosnia land corridor

Continued from page 1  
who, he said, had promised Russia's support for democratisation, and for Yugoslavia resuming its place in the CSCE when its suspension ends.

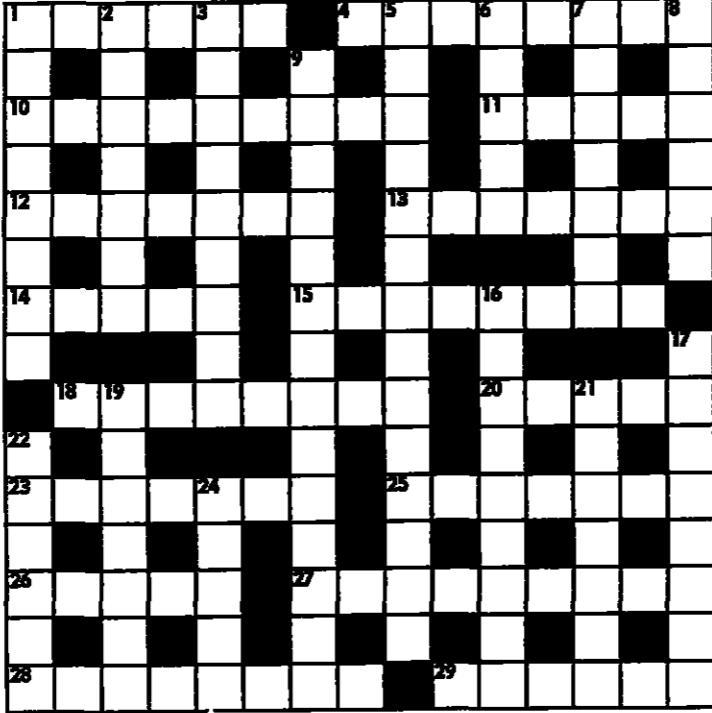
Mr Major announced that the frigate HMS Avenger would take part in the naval operation. He denied that Britain was being more cautious than other Western allies, but emphasised the dangers of intervening in rough

terrain controlled by fending warlords. Sarajevo already, he said, was flying in humanitarian relief. "It is a question of horses for courses."

Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, said details of deployment would be worked out next week in Brussels. Overall control of the operation would remain with the UN however.

Frontline hotel, page 14

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,968



### ACROSS

1 Spoil England? That's not unknown (6).  
4 A little bit heartless, girl's venial sin (5,3).  
10 Endlessly try to make watertight — water somehow gets in in squall (9).  
11 Esau's father is an aircraftman (5).  
12 A concealed chan ordered about man in a state (3-4).  
13 Casual worker disinclined to take the lead (7).  
14 Source of enlightenment to the right church (5).  
15 Ignorant, short of money — that's not deserved (8).  
18 Expedition's report (8).  
20 Jack's first boss, a very large person (5).  
23 Candied stems when cut are heavenly (7).  
25 Bars the use of abusive language (7).  
26 Not for the first time, making a profit (5).  
27 Located an assemblage of stories (9).  
28 It helps you to remember to maintain a stock of alcohol (8).  
29 Muse about amateur in a sport (6).

Concise Crossword, p16  
Weekend Times

Solution to Puzzle No 18,967

DOTTING GALAXIES  
V N I R N M L  
U H I H A L X A  
SENTENCE UTOPIA  
T R E G E O O P  
STURGEON INGRID  
U I R W I T A  
R O R A T O R I O E S  
DEAR D O D A R C H  
S E M D E A D S E T A  
S E U P A T R R  
P I N I N G E N L A R G E D  
G A G C I A F  
T A B L E T K I S S C U R L  
I L O E T T E  
C L E A N G E R S I S T E R  
PARKER DUOFOLD

A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

## AA WEATHERWATCH

By Philip Howard

**STRIGULOUS**  
a. Itchy or irked  
b. Compelling  
c. Pertaining to the screech-owl

**VIATIC**  
a. With itchy feet  
b. Travelling, on the road  
c. A picnic lunch

**DYSPEMISM**

a. An unpleasant expression

b. Discontent with life

c. Rule by the daft rabble

**BANAUSIC**

a. Utilitarian, mechanically contrived

b. Jealous

c. Flaming one's wealth

Answers on page 19

## AA WEATHERWATCH

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

**Greater London** 701  
**Kent, Surrey, Sussex** 702  
**Dorset, Hants & IOW** 703  
**Devon & Cornwall** 704  
**Wilt, Glos, Avon, Soms** 705  
**Berks, Bucks, Oxon, Herts** 706  
**Essex, Suffolk** 707  
**Norfolk, Norfolk, Cambs** 708  
**West Mld & Sth Glam & Gwent** 709  
**Shrops & Worcs** 710  
**Central Midlands** 711  
**East Midlands** 712  
**Lincs & Humberside** 713  
**Yorks & Penns** 714  
**Gwynedd & Chwyd** 715  
**N W England** 716  
**W & S Yorks & Dales** 717  
**Cumbria & Lake District** 718  
**Scot & N Ireland** 719  
**W Central Scotland** 720  
**Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders** 721  
**E Central Scotland** 722  
**Grampian & E Highlands** 723  
**N W Scotland** 724  
**Cairngorms, Orkney & Shetland** 725  
**N Ireland** 726

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

**London & SE**

C London (within N & S Circs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733

M-ways/roads M25-M4 734

M25 London Orbital only 735

National

National motorways

West Country

Wales

Midlands

East Anglia

North-west England

North-east England

Scotland

Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY

London 9.14 pm to 4.59 am

Bristol 9.26 pm to 5.08 am

Edinburgh 9.31 pm to 5.21 am

Manchester 9.35 pm to 4.55 am

Penzance 9.30 pm to 5.26 am

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road

works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

**London & SE**

C London (within N & S Circs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733

M-ways/roads M25-M4 734

M25 London Orbital only 735

National

National motorways

West Country

Wales

Midlands

East Anglia

North-west England

North-east England

Scotland

Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road

works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

**London & SE**

C London (within N & S Circs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733

M-ways/roads M25-M4 734

M25 London Orbital only 735

National

National motorways

West Country

Wales

Midlands

East Anglia

North-west England

North-east England

Scotland

Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road

works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

**London & SE**

C London (within N & S Circs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733

M-ways/roads M25-M4 734

M25 London Orbital only 735

National

National motorways

West Country

Wales

Midlands

East Anglia

North-west England

North-east England

Scotland

Northern Ireland

● BUSINESS 21-24, 31  
● WEEKEND MONEY 25-30



# BUSINESS TIMES

SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

**SPORT**  
34-40

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

**WEEKEND  
MONEY**

**Profile**

The new chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers faces the toughest week of his new career next week at the MGN annual meeting. But Sir Robert Clark is on the record as being a firm upholder of the rights of Mirror pensioners. Despite facing a huge potential loss as a member of Lloyd's, he says he never has any sleepless nights. Page 23



**Student fees**

Parents who expect their children to go on to further education, should start saving early. The average parental contribution is rising fast as student figures grow and grants decline. Page 27

**Battle for savers**

The building societies are struggling to compete with National Savings' new one-year bond, launched this week. The new bond pays 7.7 per cent net on amounts below £20,000. Page 26

**She's knitting  
her will**



Letters page 30

**Pep drawback**

Inland Revenue rules are preventing up to 50 per cent of investors from using share exchange schemes to put money into personal equity plans. Joint shareholdings cannot be used to fund Peps as it is not clear from whom the money comes, according to Ann McFadden, managing director of Framlington Unit Trust Managers. Revenue requirements that Pep managers ensure the money belongs to the applicant are impossible with joint shareholdings. Page 29



**Loads of money**

People who suddenly acquire a sum of money can be confused about what to do with it. Building society accounts are not always the best solution, especially for higher rate taxpayers. Page 27



**Poor surrender**

Abbey National is still trying to trace the owners of shares worth £100 million. Most of the shares are to be sold early next year, but can still be reclaimed for six years after that. Insurers could be penalised. Page 28

## US trade chief agrees enquiry into Airbus sale

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN government authorities are preparing an investigation of the \$3 billion, 100-aircraft deal struck earlier this week between Airbus Industrie and United Airlines in what could spark an international political row over unfair competition.

United's agreement with Airbus to lease 50 A320 aeroplanes starting next autumn, and take options on 50 more in the mid-1990s, beat an offer from Boeing.

United's success is almost certain to re-ignite American allegations that Airbus won the deal because government subsidies to the four-nation European consortium allowed it to offer much lower prices.

James Bryan Jr, president and chief executive officer of Airbus in North America and among the chief architects of the deal, resigned last night, only 48 hours after the contract was announced and before the financing was completed. Mr Bryan, 51, said in a prepared statement that he was leaving to pursue other interests.

He was appointed Airbus's top salesman in North America in October 1986. His statement said that with the United deal, he considered his job for the company complete.

Alan Boyd, US Airbus chairman, has already taken on most of Mr Bryan's duties. Airbus said: "There has been no quarrel and Mr Bryan's departure is totally unrelated to the United-Airbus deal, which, on a daily basis, was conducted by a team of people, but he was our number one North American salesman."

Carla Hills, the US trade

representative, has promised an immediate investigation of the Airbus deal. The US trade department said yesterday: "Although we have no reason to believe there are any irregularities, the details will be examined to see if any illegal subsidies were used in breach of Gatt."

The Airbus spokesman said of the proposed investigation: "I find it very odd that seemingly every time Airbus sells an aeroplane in the US somebody wants to investigate or accuses us of doing something that we shouldn't have done."

Airline executives believe price was a major factor in the deal, although the Airbus jets are technologically more advanced and have a fuel efficiency and range above the rival Boeing 737-400s. Industry sources said Airbus could have cut the price of the aeroplanes up to 30 per cent to get what is considered a breakthrough order in America.

Airbus ousts Boeing as a 14-



Hills: immediate action

## DTI seeks local bids for advice centres

BY ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE industry department is to introduce competitive bidding by local business advice organisations in an effort to improve the quality of services available.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, said chambers of commerce and local enterprise agencies were likely to lead development of high street "first stop shops" providing business services.

The 82 Tees in England and Wales are likely to be left with a co-ordinating role in Mr Heseltine's strategy for DTI service outlets in more than 300 towns and cities.

Responsibility for small firms has been transferred from the employment department, which provides most Tee funding, to Mr Heseltine's enlarged DTI. Both Mr Heseltine and Gillian Shephard, employment secretary, denied any disagreement over strategy yesterday. "We are a seamless garment," Mrs Shephard said.

Mr Heseltine told the second national conference of Tee directors, in Birmingham, that business advice centres had to become more professional. "Nowhere near enough" Tees, chambers of commerce, local enterprise agencies or other support agencies met requirements, he said.

The DTI will spend £40 million next year on services provided by Tees. "I intend that part of this money should be offered through competitive bidding," Mr Heseltine said. "Winners will be local areas which can most effectively demonstrate a convincing strategy, strong targets, ambitious targets and a high quality of service."



Heseltine: local agencies not meeting needs

## Canary bankers may offer cash for Jubilee line

BY ANGELA MACKAY

CANARY Wharf's bankers are believed to be prepared to make a cash contribution to the Jubilee line extension to help induce the government to relocate 2,500 civil servants at the Docklands development.

Earlier this week, Ernst & Young, Canary Wharf's ultimate parent, yesterday disclosed the first updated and audited picture of its internal finances showing net losses grew five times last year to US\$1.76 billion, (Philip Robinson writes).

Olympia & York said it had to write off US\$1.2 billion on property and stock market investments. Even without these accounting charges, O&Y said it would have reported an operating loss of US\$538 million for the 12 months which ended on January 31, 1992, compared with a income of \$172 million a year earlier.

Olympia & York's Canary Wharf project was carried at cost in the results because of uncertainties about the value of Canary Wharf after it was placed under administration in May. O&Y plans to begin interim financial statements, which will reflect provisions for Canary Wharf, during 1992.

Even though Harbour Exchange would probably be the cheapest option, Charter Group, the developer, does not have spare cash to contribute to the rail link.

NCC, Sweden's biggest construction and property investment company, which built East India Dock, is in a much better position to offer more than just a cheap rent. East India Dock has about £190 million of capital allowances which NCC could sell on behalf of the government at a discount and then return the cash to Whitehall as a contribution.

## Investors stay away from MFI share sale

BY MICHAEL TATE

THE MFI Furniture Group share sale has flopped, with less than half of the 137 million shares offered to the public understood to have been taken up. The balance, probably around 55 per cent, and worth some £85 million at the sale price, has been left with the underwriters.

County NarWest, who handled the flotation of the home furnishings group, would not confirm the number of applications last night. This alone reflected the issuing house's disappointment: details of over-subscribed offers are normally published within hours of the closure of the application lists.

Because the offer was underwritten, MFI will still receive

## Deal clears HSBC for London listing

BY NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Stock Exchange has fixed up a last-minute deal with market-making firms to ensure that all the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's shares can be quoted in London and join the FT-SE 100 index as it promised last month.

The exchange's FT-SE 100 steering committee held an emergency meeting yesterday after market-makers threatened not to trade in the Hong Kong dollar-denominated shares of HSBC Holdings, the holding company of the Hongkong Bank.

The committee, Hongkong Bank's stockbroker, persuaded six market-makers to quote the shares, and they started trading at 2.30pm and will join

the FT-SE 100 index on Monday. Hongkong Bank, valued at more than £8 billion, is estimated to account for more than 2 per cent of the revised index.

The problems stemmed from HSBC's new split capital base. Its 1.6 billion existing shares are still quoted in Hong Kong dollars. The new shares which it used in its £3.7 billion takeover of Midland Bank are in sterling.

Last month, the Stock Exchange said that all Hongkong Bank's shares would be included in the FT-SE 100 and FT All-Share indices. This position was jeopardised on Thursday when market-making firms said they would not trade the dollar shares.

## Carlton goes to Hollywood

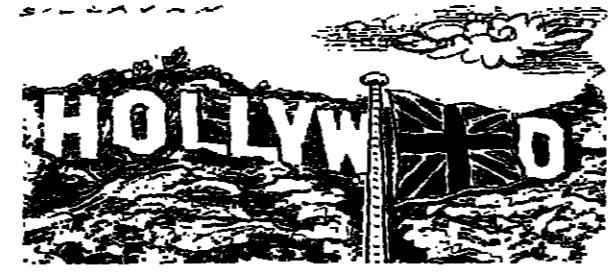
BY MARTIN WALLER

MICHAEL Green's Carlton Communications is going where even Rambo or the Terminator might fear to tread. It is dipping a toe into the shark-infested waters of Hollywood film production.

Carlton, a media combine best known for its successful bid for the Thames TV franchise, is paying \$15 million for a 10 per cent stake in Savoy Pictures Entertainment, a fund set up five months ago to produce and distribute blockbusters.

Vic Kaufman, once head of Columbia, is chairman and chief executive. Other names include Lewis Korman, Mr Kaufman's associate, and Andrew Vajna, who left Carlton in 1990 after *Terminator One* and *Rambo*.

Another former Columbia



head, Frank Price, is also a founding shareholder. Other investors include Chicago's Pritzker clan, the French media group Groupe G, and Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian entertainment magnate.

The venture aims to produce about 15 films a year. Carlton owns Technicolor, the film reproduction business, and the work on future Savoy releases will come its way. Carlton also has the

and TV have almost always bombed at the financial box office, starting with David Puttnam's short stint as the head of Columbia and including much-lamented purchases by two British TV contractors, TBS Entertainment and Thames, of American television production companies.

This time will be different. Carlton swears, pointing to the relatively small size of the investment, possible spin-offs and the roster of American film industry talent behind the venture.

"This company is unlike many of the new film funds," said a Carlton spokesman. "This one is controlled and invested in by some of the best names in Hollywood."

Or, as Griffin Mill, the amoral hero of *The Player*, might have said: "The best deal ever made!"

Limousines  
to the  
USA four  
free.

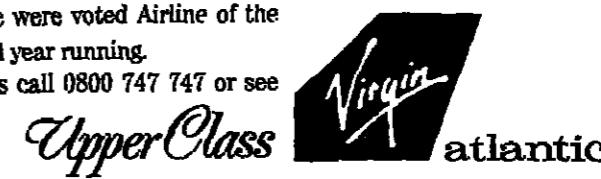
With Virgin your Upper Class journey starts before you even take off. A chauffeur driven car will take you to the airport free from anywhere in the home counties.

And if you're flying to the States a car will meet you at the other end. On your return a car will be waiting to take you home.

What's more, Upper Class also gives you a first class sleep seat, award winning food and a free economy ticket every time you fly. All in all, it's a first class service at a business class price.

No wonder we were voted Airline of the Year for the second year running.

For full details call 0800 747 747 or see your travel agent.



**THE POUND**

US dollar

1.9195 (+0.0125)

German mark

2.8725 (-0.0004)

Exchange index

92.8 (+0.2)

Bank of England official close (pm)

**STOCK MARKET**

FT 30 share

1903.7 (-10.2)

FT-SE 100

2490.8 (-7.1)

New York Dow Jones

3326.78 (+2.70)\*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge

16783.72 (-54.94)

**INTEREST RATES**

London Bank Base: 10%  
3-month interbank: 10.4%-10.5%  
3-month bills: 9.5%-9.7%  
UK Prime Rate: 5%

French Funds: 3.1%

3-month Treasury Bills: 3.21-3.30%

30-year bonds: 10.4%-10.4%

**CURRENCIES**

London

\$1.9224

£2.8730

\$1.9239

£2.8727

\$1.9237

£2.8727

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728

\$1.9241

£2.8728



THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

PROFILE 23

## BUSINESS PROFILE: Sir Robert Clark

## The Mirror finds a cool head in adversity

The man drafted in to clear Maxwell's wreckage is adept at handling people and always polite, says Carol Leonard

**E**verything is set for the annual meeting of Mirror Group Newspapers on Thursday. The halls have been booked, the microphones tested and the answers to the most obvious and difficult questions prepared so that they can be displayed, pre-emptively, on a large screen.

Permission has also been sought from the Stock Exchange and granted, for the company's shares to be relisted the very next day.

The annual meeting itself remains the final hurdle in MGN's rehabilitation. Up to 3,500 shareholders and pensioners — not to mention attendant journalists and television cameras — are expected to turn up and, with the question of the missing £450 million still unresolved, the meeting, if left to its own devices, could prove heated.

Nothing, however, that the pensioners can say or do will make

MGN's new chairman, Sir Robert Clark, lose his cool. He

never loses it. "Perhaps once in ten years," he concedes. "I'm reasonably laid back, I'm quite good at keeping the temperature down. I don't find it difficult to deal with difficult people or situations. I don't have to face everything head on. I suppose I'm the voice of the reasonable man." He laughs self-consciously. "I do not shout and scream."

Clark, aged 68, and a non-executive director of MGN since April last year, found himself propelled into the hot seat a fortnight ago. It is not a job he would have sought. "I did not volunteer, the banks approached me," he says. "My first reaction was to think, 'Oh God, that looks like hard work.' I told them I would only do it if I got total support from other members of the board, the banks and the administrators."

As Clark awaited their assurances he did not discuss the proposal with anyone. Not even his wife. He simply informed her of his decision once he had made it. "I do tend to keep my own counsel and I don't ever discuss business with my wife. That's because I don't see why

she should be bored." The one friend he did talk to, "about everything", a partner at Slaughter & May, died five years ago. "We used to go to the pub together every weekend."

As a non-executive director, Clark had had first-hand experience of Maxwell's final months. He knew what he would be letting himself in for. "It's all very well to say I could have resigned and walked away, but there weren't exactly a lot of fellows queuing up to do this job. If we had all walked away, no one else would have done it and the only way the pensioners will really suffer is if this business does not continue. My sole objective is to keep this company going and to utilise its assets. The *Daily Mirror* is basically a good company, it makes a lot of money. There aren't many companies that can stand the stealing of £450 million and survive, and then go on

to make £90 million in operating profits." Since November, Clark says, he and Alan Clements, the new finance director, ex-ICI, "have practically lived at the Mirror building" and although he does not yet have a successor in his sights, he sees his

role as that of a caretaker. "I would like to do it for six to 12 months. We've got a difficult time ahead of us but once we get through that I hope someone else will come along." He plans to retire from his other, non-executive directorships — at Shell, Alfred McAlpine, Vodafone, the deputy chairmanship of SmithKline Beecham and the chairmanship of Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School — when he reaches the age of 70.

Clark was among the non-executive directors who raised the alarm about the "huge sums" Maxwell had transferred into American investment banks. "It struck me as strange but at first I thought he just wanted to get the extra half per cent interest, he was greedy like that." Clark insisted on a board meeting so that Maxwell seemed quite relaxed. "Maxwell seemed quite relaxed. He said okay, we'll have a board meeting



Conciliator: even the angriest Mirror pensioner is unlikely to ruffle Sir Robert

next week, when I get back. But of course he was dead by then."

Clark's association with Maxwell dates back many years. Their paths had first crossed in 1961, the year Clark gave up a partnership at Slaughter & May — "I was never a very good lawyer. I'm not a scholar, I wanted to be instructing rather than advising" — to become head of corporate finance at Philip Hill, Higginson, Edangers, the forerunner of Hill Samuel, the merchant bank. Clark went on to become chairman of Hill Samuel for 13 years, but it was during his corporate finance days — a job, he adds, which he enjoyed more than any other — that he first encountered Maxwell. "We acted for British Printing Corporation when Maxwell took it over. We raised the money and worked with him. I got to know him quite well. He was a buccaneer, but he was straight. And he never did anything I asked him or advised him not to do. He always wanted to do

things that were silly rather than anything else. And he liked people to stand up to him. He only walked all over you if you didn't. He never bullied or insulted me. And none of us had any idea that he had done anything wrong, otherwise we would have done something about it. Journalists — especially those from the *Mirror*, we got shot in the foot by our own people far more than anybody else — often say, but you must know: we knew. All I can say is that we jolly well didn't know and if they knew, why didn't they do something about it? I think the end his mind had gone — he must have had that megalomaniac disease — because it must have been obvious that eventually he would find out."

Megalomania is not a disease ever likely to afflict Clark. Although a similarly large man, 6ft 4in tall — "I find it very awkward at Covent Garden, I shrink down into my seat as far as possible but there is usually a gasp from the row behind when

they see how tall I am" — he could not be more different from his predecessor. His complexion is as fair as Maxwell's was dark, his eyes cool blue and his demeanour unfailingly courteous. He pours the coffee — with a slightly shaky hand — opens and closes the door when *The Times* photographer arrives and departs, and blushes whenever he says anything that could be construed as smug or self-congratulatory.

"I'm very easy to work for, fairly relaxed, and I'm a decentraliser, a delegator. I like people to get on and do it and only come to me if they've got a problem. But I don't like surprises. I like to be told in good time when something goes wrong." He is as polite to office messengers as he is to fellow directors. "They all know me and I know most of them. I've never forgotten that I was an ordinary seaman once. I get very annoyed when people assume that I was born with a silver spoon in my

mouth. That is wrong. I owe everything to my father. He did two things with his life, he educated me and my brother, and for that I will be eternally grateful."

Clark's childhood home was a semi-detached house in Highgate, north London. His mother and his father, an engineering salesman, "lived fairly frugally" to pay fees for Highgate School. Clark, the younger son, shone in both the classroom and on the sports field — he was captain of cricket, football and head boy — but his university education at King's College, Cambridge, ended after a year because of the war.

His war years, in the Royal Navy, were spent largely in northern Italy with the Special Operations Executive. He was colour blind — "the chap behind me in the medical told me which colour say when they held up the various boards" — and his disability meant that he was banned from active service at sea. Instead, he was despatched in a small boat to reconnoitre behind enemy lines. He then volunteered to be parachuted into northern Italy to work alongside the partisan forces. "Our main objective was to stop the partisans fighting each

other and fight the Germans instead. I owe a huge debt to one particular petty officer in the Navy, he taught me tidiness, obedience and discipline. It was quite a shock going from a minor public school to the Navy." It was in Italy that he met his wife Marjorie, the mother of his three children — Tim, aged 41, also a partner with Slaughter & May, William and Catherine. Marjorie was his wireless operator.

"She is very different to me," Clark says. "If she doesn't think something is quite right, she says so. She is very direct. I tend to be more diplomatic, I suppose." Although very tactful, he says he will not socialise with people he does not like. He is also, he adds, shy, and hates cocktail parties — "I usually head straight for the exit. I am not a loner but I am quite happy on my own, I don't need other people."

Home is now a five-bedroomed, Lutyens-designed property in Godalming, Surrey, with 12 acres of Gertrude Jekyll garden, worth £1.5 million. Clark also collects 18th century first edition travel books, but he is not materialistic. "I have not made that much money. I down and no, I never forget."

I don't find it hard to deal with difficult people. I suppose I'm the voice of the reasonable man'

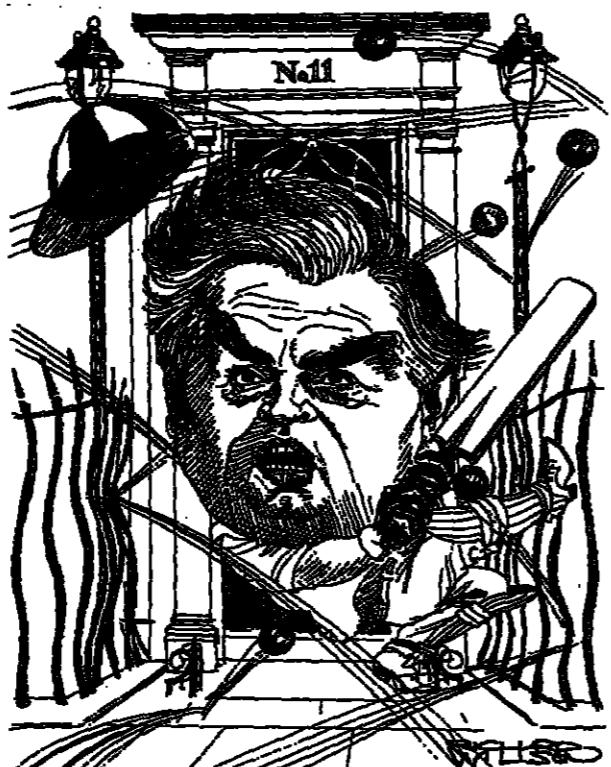
"That's typical of him," Keith says. "He would be the last person to ask what the fee was. With most people, it's the first thing they want to know."

Some of his other former colleagues would say that Clark's Achilles' heel is that he is too nice, that he always sees the best in people, that he finds it almost impossible to speak people and that he also finds it difficult to say no.

Clark is aware that some people misinterpret his quiet, courteous manner. "Some people always mistake politeness for weakness, and conversely, they think that rudeness is a sign of strength. That is a terrible mistake," he says. On the rare occasions when he has been on the receiving end of abuse from business associates, he has not, he says, fought back. "I will just leave the meeting and wait for them to get in touch. If they don't then so be it. They are then love-15 down and no, I never forget."

Matthew Bond

## Tailender Norman shows why his place at No 11 is safe... for now



THE rowing may be over at Henley, but for the rest of Britain it looks like the rowing may have only just begun. From clubland to the cricket pitch, discord is the order of the day. So much for summer being a time of easy living.

First off, of course, was the extraordinary result of that ballot — the calling of which was supposed to defuse an increasingly acrimonious battle of the sexes but the result of which had precisely the opposite effect.

For by an overwhelming four-to-one majority the women of Britain voted against becoming members of the Recess, that long-standing bastion of economic clubland. The result was a triumph for the no, no, no faction which argued successfully that the Recess was a male-dominated anachronism that had long out-lived any usefulness it might debatably have once had.

The horrendously complex rules of the club, they argued, had been drawn up by men and were so impenetrable that even an emergency meeting of the seven-strong, all-male committee had failed to come up with a way of improving the club's perennially ailing finances.

Ambitious to see responsibility for the club's problems shouldered by as many as possible, the yes-group responded by pointing out that at least one woman had been involved at the inception. The noes, however, countered by arguing that if the woman had listened to her intuition — political or female — rather than the chorus of male advice the whole ghastly mess could have been avoided in the first place.

Although most of the pre-ballot debate and argument was of a high standard, a small but chic group of women is believed to have voted no simply through dread of having to wear the infamous Recess tie, a particularly hideous, zig-zag stripe. Club historians are split on whether the downward diagonal of the stripe

originally echoes corporate profit records, house prices or the value of sterling.

Following the historic vote, the leaders of the yes-no faction are already looking for premises to house a new club, but are divided on the name — the Recovery or Codles? Membership will be open to both sexes but not, sadly, to Germans.

But while bad blood has been flowing freely on the streets of clubland, the dispute pales into insignificance compared to the scenes that have disgraced the game of cricket and which provided the clearest of conclusions to the third test in the England v Rest of the World "Economic Ashes" series.

The controversy centres on the clearly intimidatory bowling meeting out to England tailender, Somerset Norman, who one expert described this week as "probably the worst number 11 in the game". The fact that he survived the

battering and eventually carried his bat was a triumph of tenacity over technique.

But what the hapless Norman went through before reaching the pavilion was a sight that shamed the noble game. First off he failed to pick up a cruel Italian googly, delivered from the safety of a rest day, but pitching middle, morning and middle and off. Faced with a bewildering one point rise in the Italian discount rate, Norman provided blindly forward and was lucky to survive an appeal for caught out.

The next delivery was no kinder, an Australian bouncer that threatened to remove his thankfully helmeted head. Coming in off an alarming rate-cut run-up, the Australian reserve bank let go with a 0.75 per cent cut in its cash rate to just 3.75 per cent, pitching it a good 12.25 points short of a length. In his unsuccessful hurry to smash such thoughts out of the fourth test?

Everything hinged on the last ball, which cunningly ballooned its way towards the waiting batsman. It seemed to hang in the air for ever as it slowly — very slowly — descended. The crowd waited — would Norman simply knock it back up for the simplest of electoral catches, or would he hit the 4.1 runs required.

Crack! The crowd roared — 3.9 runs. Hurrah! He may be black-balled at the Recovery, but guess who is first on the team list for the fourth test?

up to  
10.45%  
GROSS P.A.  
SAVE BY POST  
for a  
HIGHER RETURN  
HIGH INTEREST  
NO NOTICE.  
PENALTY-FREE  
ACCESS

Balance	Gross p.a.	Annual	Monthly
£1,000-£9,999	Gross % Net %	9.60% 7.20%	
£10,000-£24,999	Gross % Net %	10.30% 7.73%	9.85% 7.39%
£25,000+	Gross % Net %	10.45% 7.84%	10.00% 7.50%

Bradford & Bingley Building Society  
Crossflatts, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 2UA

Interest rates are variable and will be payable at the basic rate of interest, which may be reduced by non-drawers. Interest can also be paid gross, subject to regulation. The net rates shown above are not on the basis of 25% AER. All rates are at time of going to press. Withdrawals are normally processed on the day of receipt. The Bradford & Bingley Ordinary Share Account rate is payable on Annual interest balances below £1,000 and Monthly interest balances below £10,000.

Please send me full details of the Direct Premium Account.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ (Please use BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: Home \_\_\_\_\_

I already hold another account(s) with Bradford & Bingley Building Society  (please tick)

We would like to keep you informed about other services from Bradford & Bingley Building Society.

If you would prefer not to receive such information, please tick here

To: Direct Savings Unit, Bradford & Bingley Building Society, FREEPOST CV 1504, Leamington Spa CV32 5BR  
(No stamp needed.)

0345 247 247



- NATIONAL SAVINGS 26
- LUMP-SUM SAVINGS 27
- ABBEY GIVEAWAY 28
- LETTERS 30

# WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

Edited by Lindsay Cook

**B**uilding societies would not be happy if they were all stereotyped as being insensitive behind the times, pushers of irresponsible loans for frivolous purposes. Yet the largest society is quite happy to insult at least half of its potential customers and encourage the rest into debt with an advertisement that has no place today.

"How You Spend Your Secured Loan is Entirely Up To Your Wife" shouts the headline above a photograph of a woman of indeterminate years smirking behind the wheel of a sports car. She appears to be a throwback to the Fifties, as does the thinking behind the text.

The Halifax adspeak continues to extol the virtues of the loans and the extravagance of women. Men, poor loves, may hanker after a Harley Davidson, want to try hang-gliding or to visit the rainforest of South America, but it will be the wife who decides how any loan will be spent.

Worse, by addressing the message to men, the advertisement appears tacitly to dismiss women's claims to be taken seriously by financial

institutions. The old dragon may appear to have her claws firmly clamped round the purse strings, but it is her mate whom the Halifax invites to apply for the loan.

There is no need to worry whether the happy couple have an account or mortgage with the Halifax already. This offer is open to all comers, so long as they own a home. They can borrow £3,000 to £15,000 and spend it on anything from the car of the year to the holiday of a lifetime.

What the Halifax does not explain in the full-page advertisement is that anyone who takes out a loan will be paying for the holiday for at least three years and possibly for the next 25 years. Nor does it give the interest rate for the loans.

Anyone who telephones the free number to ask for more information will be refused information on how much the loans cost or whether the rate is fixed at the outset or will fall

with interest rates in general. Potential customers are told that they will have to visit a branch to find out. The interest rate on the secured loans is 1.35 per cent a month or an annual percentage rate of 17.4 per cent. This is 6 percentage points higher than its base mortgage rate and 8 points higher than the discounted rate for first time buyers.

Anyone considering taking out a loan to cheer themselves up as the recession drags on should read the health warning over and over again. If they cannot keep up the payments their home could be at risk. The

number of people who lose their homes because of additional secured loans is not given by the Council of Mortgage Lenders in its statistics. However, such loans were one of the stumbling blocks for the mortgage rescue schemes, especially if the loans were taken with organisations other than the first lender.

While homeowners are encouraged to secure loans on their homes for self-indulgent purchases, lenders cannot continue to claim that they are responsible lenders. They may claim that the advertisement is intended to be taken lightly.

money when fraudsters pick up details from innocent cardholders and use them to place such orders.

Next week the credit card companies who are members of the Plastic Fraud Prevention Forum hope to find a solution that will not leave them open to criticisms of breaching customer confidentiality by swapping addresses. The Visa and Access networks will be asked to set up an address verification service. This will allow retailers to ring up and ask if the holder of the card lives at 9, Acacia Gardens, Surbiton. If the answer is yes, the retailer will know it can send the goods. If it is no, the real address will not be given and a fraud will have been prevented.

Banks say their losses are not large from this particular fraud. However, retailers are having to restrict the range of cards they will accept for telephone or mail orders for fear of sending an expensive item to an address and receiving no payment for it. Credit card customers must be vigilant and check their bills. The banks will keep on discussing the problem "at the highest level".

Companies worried about growing disillusionment

## Premature cashing in of insurance policies costs holders millions

Lindsay Cook  
reports on the  
insurers' efforts  
to find out what  
is going wrong

HUNDREDS of thousands of insurance policies are surrendered every year, wasting hundreds of millions of pounds for their investors. Brokers can also be forced to pay back part of the commission they earned on the sale if a policy is cashed in within two years.

In addition, life companies whose costs are concentrated on setting up a policy find policies that are surrendered early are uneconomic.

The insurance companies are also becoming concerned about large numbers of people being disenchanted with life policies because of the poor payout they get when they cash in a policy early.

The Securities and Investments Board commissioned a survey last year into early terminations of policies. This showed that between 23 and 37 per cent were surrendered in the first two years.

Many of the investors would have got nothing back and others only a fraction of the amount they had paid in premiums. The SIB is concerned that too many people are being sold the wrong investment products if between a quarter and third of people taking out 10, 15 and 25-year policies cash them in within two years. The Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation says that companies with high early surrenders might be asked to bear a greater degree of the cost in the future rather than most of it coming from the investors.

Now insurance companies are trying to find out what is going wrong. Commercial Union, Eagle Star, General Accident Life, Guardian Royal Exchange, Legal & General, Norwich Union, Prudential, Royal Life and Sun Alliance published findings of joint research this week.

In a survey of 7,500 of their customers who had cancelled policies recently, mostly in a four-month period, 68 per cent gave a range of circumstances as the reason for surrendering. Others cited poor service or dissatisfaction with the product or said they had been advised to cancel the



The SIB is concerned that too many people are being sold the wrong products

policy by a financial adviser. Most had cashed in within two years of taking out the policy. Only 53 per cent of the people recalled being offered any alternative to surrender and almost 40 per cent said that they had not been told of the financial penalties of lapsing their policies when they took them out. However, almost three-quarters said the surrender value they received was as much as they expected or better. The same proportion said they were likely to deal with the same company again. Of those who cancelled policies because they could no longer afford the premiums, a large number were in the 18 to 24 age group. Some of the companies who took part in the survey said they were discouraging young people without dependents or mortgages from applying for long-term policies.

This prevents them from buying an inappropriate policy when they are young and

then regretting it later. A typical case detailed in the survey was someone who took out a policy when they were single and then finding it did not suit their needs when they were married with young children. Usually the cheapest form of insurance, term insurance, is best suited to young families where cash is limited. This only pays out if the policyholder dies during its term and has no surrender value if it is cancelled. Many large companies admit that fewer than half the policies that they sell reach maturity. Even in the 24th year of a 25-year policy there can be a substantial loss suffered by people cashing in their policies early.

Payments after 24 years can be less than half the full maturity value because the terminal bonus is lost.

Weekend Money surveyed the nine companies involved in this week's report, plus six others, to find out how many of the customers sold 25-year

endowments receive the terminal bonus. Of the 15, only three claimed that more than 50 per cent of its 25-year endowments reach maturity. Friends Provident said 69 per cent of policies due to mature last year had done so. Scottish Amicable estimated the figure at 60 to 65 per cent and Scottish Widows said 60 per cent had matured last year. GRE estimated that 40 to 50 per cent matured. General Accident Life and Prudential said 40 per cent stayed the course and NU estimated it at 35 to 40 per cent. Many of the companies said they could not work out what proportion of policies matured, nor could they say how many customers cashed in policies within two years.

GRE estimated that 20 to 25 per cent of endowments were surrendered before two years were completed. Prudential put the figure at one policy in five cancelled in the period. NU estimated it lost 15 per cent of all endowment policies then. Scottish Amicable said that surrenders under two years ran at 10 per cent during the past decade. GA put the figure at 10 per cent, as did Standard Life. Scottish Widows only lost 6 per cent in the first two years.

A simple way to buy shares in the trust is through the Throgmorton Savings Scheme which cuts red tape and does away with dealing charges - so more of your money goes into your investment.

## Why abandonment really is the last resort

THE Association of British Insurers has printed 200,000 leaflets telling policyholders "Think - 'Don't Surrender'." Intended for anyone thinking of surrendering a policy, it points out that life insurance is essentially a long-term commitment not designed to be surrendered early.

For those who need money it suggests using bank, building society or National Savings accounts first and offers the alternative of taking out a loan from the insurance policy. Usually up to 80 per cent of the surrender value can be borrowed at much lower rates of interest than those charged by banks for personal loans.

It also suggests that selling the policy may give a better return than the surrender value.

If there is no alternative, a written quotation of the surrender value should be obtained from the insurance company.

The leaflet also gives a warning that advice to sell one policy and take out



another usually involves the investor in a loss. The broker suggesting such a move is also likely to be contravening regulations under the Financial Services Act. Policies issued before March 14, 1984, still have

### COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK  
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

SELLING a policy is an alternative to surrendering it for a growing number of people. About £50 million of policies change hands in this way each year and that is likely to double. Four years ago, the market was worth about £5 million (Lindsay Cook writes).

Longest in the market is Foster & Cranfield, an auctioneer, established in 1843. It has monthly sales at the Connaught Rooms in London. On Thursday, 130 endowment policies will be on offer. They will sell for an average 30 to 35 per cent more than the surrender value offered by the insurance company.

Last month, two sold for almost double the surrender value. A 20-year Clerical Medical policy taken out in 1981 had a surrender value of £2,900 but was sold for £5,650. A Sun Life of Canada policy, which matures next year, had a surrender value of £4,400 and sold for £8,600.

Guy Enriquez, auctioneer, said that to be suitable for auction, a policy usually needed to have been running for a quarter of its term. Before that, the sale price was unlikely to be much more than the surrender value.

The firm sells some policies with surrender values as low as £1,000. Typically, they have higher surrender values and most popular in the sales are those in the £5,000 to £15,000

range. To be listed in the sale cost £50 and Foster & Cranfield charges sellers a third of any excess over the surrender value. If the policy does not sell, the £50 is refunded, and the policyholder still has the option of surrendering.

Mr Enriquez said the reasons for sales varied from hardship to reorganising of investments to make them more tax efficient.

It usually takes less than a month to get a policy included in a sale if the seller has all the information needed.

There are seven members of

the association of policy market makers. Christopher Dobie, its chairman and a director of Beale Dobie, estimates that the market is worth £50 million a year. The launch of an investment trust by Kleinwort Benson, to invest in second-hand policies, could, together with other planned funds, boost the market to £100 million.

Beale Dobie, set up two years ago, buys policies from individuals and then sells them on. These usually have a

surrender value of £2,000 or

more and have run for at least five years or a third of the lifetime of the policy. They should also mature within 15 years.

The firm publishes a fortnightly list and currently finds

that the greatest demand is for

polices due to mature in

1998-9. The Kleinwort En-

deowment Policy Trust is to

invest in policies maturing

after 2002.

On average, policyholders

receive 12 per cent more than

the surrender value and have no

commission or fees to pay.

Mr Dobie said that, in recent

months, clients were being

forced to sell policies because

of pressure from the banks to

fund their businesses. The

policyholders could generally

borrow 80 per cent of the

surrender value from the in-

surance company to inject into

their business. By selling, they

could raise more cash and do

it quickly. Surrenders could

take six to eight weeks. Beale

Dobie can normally complete

within three weeks.

It is writing to 10,000

independent financial advisers

pointing out that they can

offer sale of policies as an

alternative to surrender for

clients in financial difficulties.

Mr Dobie estimates that

1,000 policies a week are

being surrendered when more

are gained by selling.

Some of the Beale Dobie

clients are Lloyd's names seek-

ing money to pay off losses.

This week, the firm was asked

to sell a policy with a surren-

der value of £970,000.

Policy Network will

take on policies with a surren-

der value of £1,000 if they

have run for four to six years

already. If it is a short-dated

policy it might consider a

lower surrender value. The

firm charges up to 12.5 per

cent for legal fees and arran-

ging the sale. This usually takes

three weeks.

Policy Portfolio buys policies

from £1,000. It usually takes three

to four weeks from the initial

contact. The firm pays inter-

mediaries 3 per cent of the sale

price for introducing the busi-

ness. This is taken into ac-

count when the price is fixed.

Beale Dobie, 3 The Friars,

Friars Lane, Maldon, Essex,

CM9 6AE; H.E. Foster &

Cranfield, 20 Britton Street,

London EC1M 5NQ; Policy</p

# PEP

With over 100,000 holders the M&G PEP is a popular unit trust Personal Equity Plan. We believe there are three reasons why people choose it:

- M&G PERFORMANCE
- M&G SIMPLICITY
- M&G VALUE FOR MONEY

Minimum £1,000 lump sum or £50 per month. For further information, telephone (0245) 390390 during business hours, or send in the coupon. No salesman will call.

To: The M&G Group, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB.  
Please send me details of the M&G PEP

Mr/Mrs/Miss	Initials	Surname
Address		
Postcode		

Past performance does not guarantee future growth. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up; you may not get back the amount you invested.

M&G Financial Services Limited never make your name and address available to unconnected organisations. Naturally we will occasionally tell you about other products or services offered by ourselves and associated M&G Companies.

If you would prefer not to receive this information please tick the box

**THE M&G FULL £6000 UNIT TRUST PEP**

Issued by M&G Financial Services Limited  
(Member of IMRO).

NCLC



Mortgage rates may rise if funds flow out of societies

## National Savings targets traditional investors

By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

NATIONAL Savings took on building societies this week with the launch of a one-year bond paying a guaranteed rate of interest for 12 months. The First Option bond is aimed at basic rate taxpayers, who are traditional building society savers. If the account persuades large numbers of customers to move to National Savings, building societies have given warning that mortgage rates may have to rise as a result.

The bond pays 7.75 percent (10.34 per cent gross) on £1,000 to £19,999. The sum of £20,000 or more earns the higher rate of 8.05 percent (10.74 per cent net).

The Fixed Interest Rate Savings Tax-paid (First) bond was announced in the Budget as part of the government's funding of its £28 billion public sector borrowing requirement. It has already spawned rival accounts from building societies.

National Savings hopes that investors who are given the option to reinvest at the end of the year will do so, said David Butler, its director.

Building societies tend to offer accounts that pay a guaranteed amount above their variable rates for other ac-



Option for savers: David Butler, director of NS

counts. This reduces the risk of societies making a loss on accounts when they lend on the money in the form of mortgages.

Donald Kirkham, group chief executive of the Woolwich, said: "The government is aware that, if we had to raise investment rates to compete, we would have to pay in a major way into the National Savings First Option Bond, then mortgage rates would inevitably rise."

The Woolwich has a one-year account that guarantees to pay at least 5 percent more than the society's share rate. The premium investment plus 2 account is currently paying 7.31 percent (9.75 percent gross) on the minimum investment of £10,000. On £25,000 plus it pays 7.65 percent (10.2 percent) and 7.88 percent (10.5 percent gross) on £50,000. No withdrawals can be made during the year. The society's share rate is currently 2.3 percent (3.1 percent gross).

The Halifax launched a range of accounts paying a

guaranteed rate of interest in May. Only the six-month account is competitive with the National Savings bond. It pays 7.125 percent net (9.5 percent gross) on £2,000 to £9,999. Above £10,000 it pays 7.5 percent (10 percent gross). The 12-month account from the largest society pays 6.938 percent net (9.25 percent gross) on £2,000. This increases to 7.125 percent net (9.5 percent gross) over £10,000.

No withdrawals can be made from the Halifax account. National Savings will allow withdrawals from the bond but no interest is earned on the money if it is withdrawn before the year is completed. The Halifax and other building society and bank accounts can pay interest gross to non-taxpayers. National Savings cannot do this but non-taxpayers can claim back any tax deducted. Higher rate taxpayers have to pay additional tax.

National Savings attracted a net inflow of £1.5 billion in the first three months of the financial year. It expects this to be substantially boosted by the bond for basic rate taxpayers.

Coupons are available in newspaper advertisements or by telephoning 0800 881188. They will be in post offices from July 27.

## Revenue seeks better policing of accounts

BANKS and building societies have been reminded by the Inland Revenue that they must police accounts held by foreign nationals living abroad more carefully or face the risk of paying tax for their savers and interest on the accounts as well. (Lindsay Cook writes).

The accounts belong to people who are non-ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom for tax purposes, and can therefore have interest paid gross. If the account holders live in Britain, tax would have to be deducted, unless they were non-taxpayers.

The investors have to sign a declaration when they open the account saying that they are not ordinarily resident in this country and therefore not due to pay

tax in Britain. They are also expected to write to the bank if their residence status changes for tax purposes. Now banks are being asked to be more vigilant when checking whether any of their customers are, in fact, resident in Britain. They can do this by paying for an external audit of these accounts. If they do not, the Inland Revenue will check accounts itself.

If an offshore customer uses cash dispensers regularly on the mainland, or debit cards in UK outlets, banks or building societies are expected to ask the customer if there has been a change of status. Should they miss the signs, the Inland Revenue can reclaim from the bank or society the tax that should have been charged, plus any interest due.

Brian Morris, of the British Bankers' Association, said: "Banks are prepared to incur the necessary expenditure to prevent the Inland Revenue from poring over their accounts." The sums in such accounts were often large and clients "put a lot of value on the confidentiality associated with their accounts", he said.

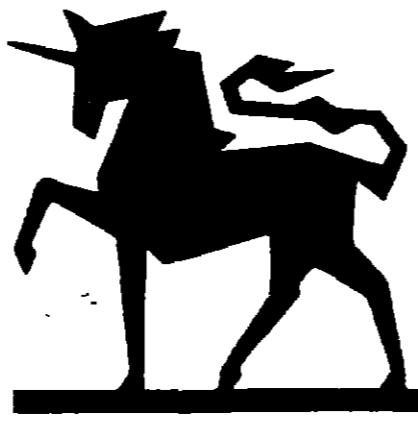
The Inland Revenue said it had issued a notice this year reminding banks and building societies of their duties in respect of investors who were non-ordinarily resident in the UK. The Inland Revenue was now offering to audit these accounts for banks and building societies if they did not want to set up their own audit. Most were choosing to make sure their own systems were efficient.

# Well, have you?

The Wellcome Share Offer closes shortly. However, there is still time to apply for shares in this international pharmaceutical group. But you'll need to act swiftly.

Speak to your broker direct or call The Share Information Line (open 7 days a week 8am to 10pm) as soon as possible on 081-944 1242 to receive a Prospectus and Application Form.

You'd do well to make contact today.  
**PUBLIC SHARE OFFER CLOSES**  
3.30pm July 21st.



**Wellcome**



Issued by Robert Fleming & Co Limited, a member of The Securities and Futures Authority Ltd and financial adviser to The Wellcome Trust in connection with the proposed sale by The Wellcome Trust of shares in Wellcome plc. Robert Fleming & Co Limited or any of its connected or affiliated companies (or its or their employees) may have a position in the shares of Wellcome plc or related investments. This document does not constitute or form part of any offer to sell or any solicitation of any offer to purchase any securities and is not for distribution in the United States, Canada or Japan. Any representations made should be made on the basis of information contained in the prospectus alone. Before deciding whether to apply for shares, you should consider whether shares are a suitable investment for you. Their value can go down as well as up. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. If you need advice you should consult an appropriate professional adviser.

BS target  
vestors

## Making the most of a lump sum

Liz Dolan examines some of the options that are available to people who have a sizable amount of money to invest

THE excitement of inheriting a substantial sum of money is often faced with anxiety about what to do with it. Dreams of blowing the lot on world travel tend to disappear when the cheque arrives, leaving the recipient with a more realistic urge to use the capital to generate an income.

A surprising number of people are nervous about spreading their investments. They lodge the entire sum with a building society and never find out about other investments. Sometimes, this is the best solution. Often it is not, especially if the investor is a higher-rate taxpayer.

Martin Jones, a senior manager in the tax department of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountants, said: "Our general approach nowa-

A READER who has just moved in with her boyfriend wants advice on how to invest the money she will receive from the proceeds on the cottage she bought a few years ago. Initial rental income plus any proceeds from the sale are unlikely to add up to more than £5,000. She has no immediate need for the capital and she resents paying tax.

Martin Jones said: "£5,000 would just about cover her consultation fees. On a more practical note, he suggested investing in a tax-exempt special savings account (Tessa). This would cater for the reader's desire for a tax-free investment vehicle, while still giving access to the capital if the need arises. Although capital invested in a Tessa must be locked away for five years to attract full tax relief, some flexibility is allowed."

Mr Jones said: "Tessas allow you to take the interest as income after deduction of basic-rate tax, but the amount deducted stays inside the Tessa to be collected at the end of the five years. It's true that any capital withdrawal means all interest becomes taxable, but if that happens, you will probably have made at least as

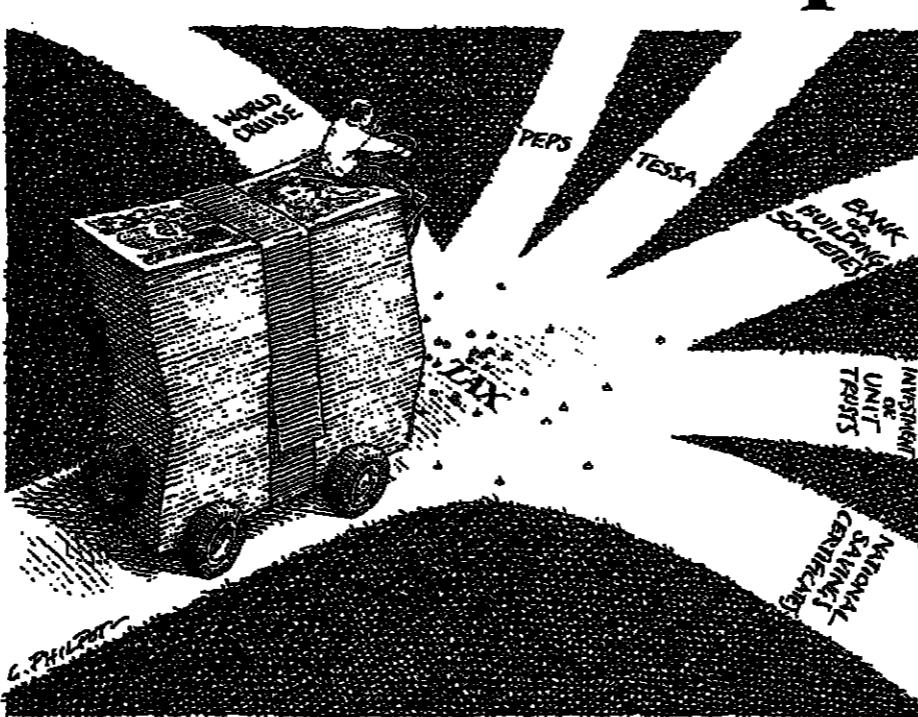
much as you would if you'd put it in a building society in the first place."

Simon Corbitt said the amount of money available was too low, and the reader's situation too fluid, for her capital to be tied up for long. He advised leaving the money in a building society or bank deposit account.

A riskier, but more potentially rewarding, alternative was a "good, solid, high yielding unit trust with a good performance record."

"James Capel's income fund springs to mind. So does M&G's dividend fund". If the reader chooses this option, however, she must bear in mind the possibility of the stock market moving down as well as up.

Stephen Inglewood, business development manager at Frizzell, the insurance broker, said this investor should make sure that, whatever investment vehicle she chose, her cash was accessible. This ruled out any equity-based options, he said, especially given the current volatility of the stock market.



A WEEKEND Money reader with a wanderlust wants to know how best to finance a trip round the world. He is 32 and single.

He plans to sell his flat and use the money to fund his travels, which he expects to last anywhere between two and five years.

He calculates that the sale of his home will realise £25,000. Part of the money will have to be set aside to fund a year-endowment policy, which is now in its sixth year and is therefore not worth cashing in.

He intends to leave any administration of his finances to his parents, but wishes to keep this to the minimum.

As a person who will not be resident in the United Kingdom, he will not have to pay tax on any interest earned on his investments.

In practice, however, he would not have to pay tax even if he stayed in the UK, as £25,000 is unlikely to generate enough income to take him above the limit of his personal allowance.

His plan is to spread the capital between various building society accounts. "My inclination is to maintain, say,

£10,000 in an interest-paying current account, £5,000 in a three-month notice savings account, £5,000 in a one-year account and £5,000 in a two-year account."

However, most advisers consider that this plan is based on too rosy a view of what may happen over the next year or two.

Stephen Inglewood advises this investor to ensure the entire sum remains readily accessible because "apart from anything else, he may decide to come back in six months and want to buy another flat."

Building society accounts answered that need, and also pay interest gross to non-taxpayers, he said.

Unit trusts were another possibility because, although dividends are paid net of tax, the balance could be reclaimed later from the Inland Revenue.

However, the volatility of

the stock market would seem to rule out investing more than a few thousand pounds in this way.

National Savings income bonds were also worth considering, although it would be wise to check whether better rates could be obtained from building societies.

Martin Jones suggested putting the entire sum in an offshore bank or building society. "We advise all our non-UK residents to do it that way. It avoids any need to reclaim tax afterwards, so it's a lot less messy."

He pointed out that all the big institutions have offshore subsidiaries. Money invested in this fashion would therefore be readily available from bank branches anywhere in the world.

Simon Corbitt said: "Put the lot on deposit somewhere. That way he can tap in as and when he wants to. Playing around with other options simply complicates the situation and could land him with more expense."

AN INVESTOR who wishes to get the best return on a £10,000 lump sum and does not need income should consider buying National Savings certificates. Martin Jones said: "They are creating something of a stir among small savers at the moment because rates on offer are considerably ahead of the rest of the market. Building societies are losing a lot of depositors."

The 37th issue pays a fixed rate of 8 per cent a year for five years tax-free. The maximum investment is £10,000. "That represents a 13.3 per cent return for a higher-rate taxpayer. You just can't get that sort of return anywhere else."

A similar opportunity is offered by National Savings' fifth index-linked issue. This pays a guaranteed 4.5 per cent rate above inflation, fixed over five years. "At current RPI of 4.3 per cent, that means 8.8 per cent, or 14.7 per cent to higher-rate taxpayers, risk-free," he added.

Stephen Inglewood said: "Most of Frizzell's clients come from the public sector. They are used to a steady income and tend to be risk-averse."

For people like these, with £10,000 to invest, he would recommend either Tessa or National Savings certificates for the medium to long term.

"If they wanted to invest for more than five years, I may advise putting up to 50 per cent into equities, probably via one of the steadier unit trust or investment trusts."

Simon Corbitt said: "If you want to get the best possible capital growth from £10,000, I'd put the whole lot on red on the roulette table. You've then got an even chance of doubling your money at a stroke."

For the 99.9 per cent who would prefer a less high-risk/high-reward option: "Why not go for an investment trust with a good track record and a wide spread, such as the Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust?"

# STOP!

Before you invest in the new National Savings First Option Bond...

...you should consider the better rates that are currently available from Guaranteed Income and Growth Bonds over 1 to 5 years.

FOR EXAMPLE			
Term	Min Inv.	Net Return*	Higher Rate Tax*
1 year	£ 5,000	8.10%	6.89%
1 year	£ 20,000	8.40%	7.14%
2 years	£ 5,000	8.20%	6.97%
4 years	£ 5,000	8.30%	7.06%
5 years	£ 2,000	8.35%	7.10%

\* All Bonds are secured by The Policyholders Protection Act 1975. All offers are strictly limited and subject to change at short notice.

Chase de Vere Investments are the specialist independent authority on Guaranteed Income/Growth Bonds and low risk fixed rate investments.

For a free information pack call

**071 404 5766**

or fax 071-831 0426 or complete and return the coupon.

To: Chase de Vere Investments plc, FREEPOST, 63 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BR.

Please send me details about Guaranteed Income/Growth Bonds

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_ TEL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**CHASE DE VERE**

INVESTMENTS PLC

## Student fees need planning

By LIZ DOLAN

PARENTS who expect that their children will go on to further, or higher education, should start saving as early as possible, according to Norwich Union.

The insurance company calculates that a three-year further education course now costs £10,000 and research for the company shows that 84 per cent of parents are unaware of the potential cost.

As student numbers continue to increase, the amount available from the state to fund them will gradually decrease.

Norwich Union says that

the 700,000 students currently engaged on full-time further education courses is projected to rise to 1 million in a year's time, and carry on growing thereafter.

Local authorities, faced with a growing pile of grant applications each year, are proving increasingly reluctant to provide any money at all for students other than those on degree courses, which qualify for mandatory grants.

Only one in four students currently qualifies for the full maintenance grant, which in any case has been frozen at £2,265 (£2,845 for those in

student numbers

residual income is more than £13,360 receive no state assistance except course fees, even if the course they are following qualifies for a mandatory grant.

Those students applying for a discretionary grant are unlikely to get even their fees paid, let alone their living expenses.

Parents who left university more than ten years ago may be unaware that, in the early 1980s, the government raised parental contributions by 25 per cent.

In addition, although the grant was frozen in 1990, the residual income limit has continued to rise with inflation, thus gradually eroding the number of students that qualify for maintenance grants as time goes on.

Norwich Union calculates that, for a child who is eight at the moment, a three-year degree course at age 18 will require funding of more than £16,000, assuming 5 per cent inflation.

Suggested investment vehicles include regular savings plans, with-profit endowment policies and Personal Equity Plans.

These are not tied to educational needs, and the proceeds can be used for, say, buying a home if plans change later.

A free booklet on education planning is available from Norwich Union on 0603 681938.

## INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO GAIN?

- An expert opinion.  An unbiased point of view.
- Choice from a wide range of financial products.
- Help in selecting the solution that fits you.
- An initial consultation which is usually free.

To gain all the above, all you need is a Financial Adviser who is independent.

To help you find the right one for you, we've put together a pack, consisting of a booklet about the benefits of financial advice that's independent, a checklist of things to look out for when choosing an adviser and a list of independent financial advisers near you.

SEND THE COUPON OR CALL 0483 461 461 FOR FREE INFORMATION PACK

To: The IFAP Centre, Studio House, Flowers Hill, Bristol BS4 8JJ

Please send me a list of six independent financial advisers, convenient to my home or work address, below.

WE GUARANTEE THAT NO SALESMAN WILL CALL OR PHONE YOU AS A RESULT OF THIS COUPON.

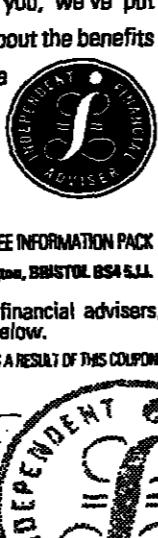
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick if you would like to receive information on other financial products.

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



## EARLY RETIREMENT CAN YOU AFFORD IT?

For details ring our free Moneyline now on:

**0800 282 101**

9.00am-5.30pm, 7 days a week

SAVE & PROSPER

THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

# An exciting new inflation-proof investment. But don't quote us on it.

After months of being out-gunned by National Savings, building societies are hitting back hard in the battle for savers' deposits.

*The Daily Telegraph. 17.6.92.*

Britannia's new Index Linked Account does not make savers wait five years to reap the rewards. Cash is available with 90 days' notice and no penalty.

A bold challenge to the Government's monopoly of inflation-proof savings.

*The Independent on Sunday. 14.6.92.*

Britannia's Index Linked Account is sure to put the cat amongst the savings pigeons. It guarantees 4.5 per cent gross above inflation as measured by the Retail Price Index.

*The Observer. 14.6.92.*

Both offer inflation plus 4.5 per cent. But National Savings certificates have to be held for a full five years to get this return, while the new Britannia Index Linked Account offers it as a running rate of return.

Currently the building society account pays 8.8 per cent gross. This translates to 6.6 per cent net of basic tax.

*The Independent. 13.6.92.*

Minimum investment is £1,000 up to a substantial £500,000. Call 0800 252579 free, or call in at your local branch for further details. And safeguard your savings against inflation.

**Britannia Building Society**  
Newton House, Leek, Staffs. ST13 5EG.

Interest rates are subject to variation

23  
992  
S

chester 200.  
is a city of  
th Chinese  
possibilities  
or another  
tourism.  
left by the  
ing, but  
eside ha  
away from  
Wales and  
the region  
actions in  
right, the  
Martin Me  
lands are  
Pilkington  
St. Helens  
nd Crofton  
a year.

ies  
ter.

## Abbey still has £100m to give away

BY LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

ABBEY National still has shares worth more than £100 million to give away to 390,000 savers and borrowers. The former building society has not been able to trace the people in the three years since its flotation.

It can now legally set about selling the shares.

Next week, Sir Christopher Tugendhat, its chairman, will write to the people who are believed to be eligible for the shares asking them to complete a form to claim the shares allocated to customers at the time of the flotation.

Each customer with £100 in their five star, share, current or seven day accounts at the end of 1983 who kept the account open until after the members' vote in April the following year qualified for 100 free shares.

Borrowers needed to owe the society at least £100 at the end of 1988 and not have paid off their mortgage before the vote was taken.

The shares are now worth about £270 and £25.70 in dividends have already been paid on them.

Only people of 18 and above were entitled to the shares. Those with more than one savings or mortgage account were only allowed one



Customer search: John Fry, of Abbey National, who is looking for 390,000 customers

lot of free shares in each of the

branches and has set up a free phone line on 0500 500 202 for anyone who wants to stake their claim.

Only claims made on the forms will be considered. The

bank expects a large volume of people trying to claim shares.

John Fry, group services director, said he expected delays of two to three weeks

being made and the people

being contacted. This is the seventh time the Abbey has tried to get hold of the people. At the sixth attempt it was able to hand over 5,000 more shareholdings.

Those that are not claimed this time will be sold and between 90 and 95 per cent of the money will be retained by the proceeds of the share sale.

The rest will be used to endow Abbey National Charitable Trust. This gives £1 million a year to charities and could have its income doubled by the proceeds of the share sale.

Those entitled to the shares do not lose their right to claim when the shares are sold early next year. They have another six years from the date of the sale to claim.

Claims for dividends earned can be made for up to 12 years after they were announced.

Some members called on the Abbey to give all the shares to charity at its last annual general meeting.

Members who just missed out because their accounts were pennies short of £100, or who were the second named person on a joint account, had hoped that they might receive shares separately.

During the flotation, 560 million free shares were given out and 3.5 million first time shareholders were created.

INVESTORS wishing to take part in Wellcome's £3 billion share offer have little more than a week in which to send in their applications. The offer to the public closes on Tuesday, July 21.

Unlike institutional investors, who have to make a specific bid for the shares, private investors simply apply for a parcel of shares, subject to a minimum £1,000 application. The strike price and allocations will be announced on Monday, July 27.

Those wishing to register with the share information office (081 944 1242) must do so before Wednesday, July 15.

Applications must be made in multiples of £500 between £1,000 and £14,500, and in £1,000 multiples from £15,000 to £45,000.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

By LIZ DOLAN

Alternatively, they may apply through a stockbroker, or collect a prospectus and application from main Lloyds Bank branches.

Shares worth £180 million have been set aside for private UK investors. If the issue is oversubscribed, the earlier the application, the higher the allocation. Smaller investors are likely to be penalised, as priority will be given to those applying for the most shares.

Applications must be made in multiples of £500 between £1,000 and £14,500, and in £1,000 multiples from £15,000 to £45,000.

Since bidding opened last

## Insurer insists on anti-theft device

OWNERS of fast cars will soon have to fit a £400 anti-theft device before Norwich Union will agree to insure their vehicles against theft (Liz Dolan writes).

Members who just missed out because their accounts were pennies short of £100, or who were the second named person on a joint account, had hoped that they might receive shares separately.

During the flotation, 560 million free shares were given out and 3.5 million first time shareholders were created.

It can be wired in several ways so

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11.75 to a low of 848p since the offer was announced. Wellcome closed yesterday at 85.75p.

Since bidding opened last

Monday, initial interest has been higher than many had predicted. Reports suggest that more than 40 per cent of the shares have been bid for at an average 5 per cent discount to the current market price.

The offer for sale is the largest ever made for shares in a non-privatised stock. The Wellcome Trust is selling 330 million shares, representing 38.4 per cent of the company, to drop its holding from 75 per cent to 36.6 per cent.

The shares have tumbled steadily from £11

in Wellcom  
idding to

Thousands of investors buy as the market rises — the opposite of what they should do

## Reverse gear to win with shares

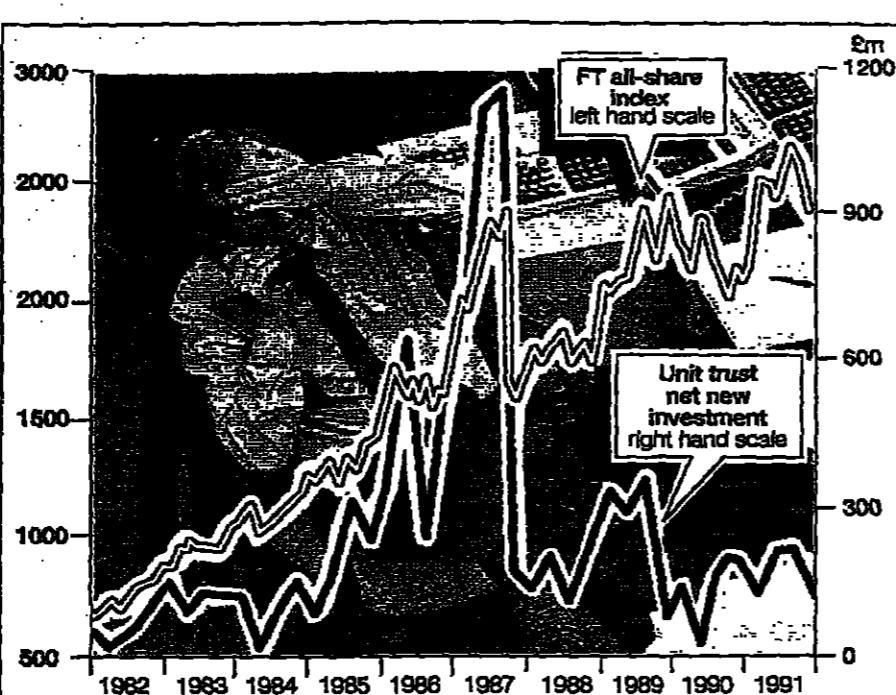
**Rupert Bruce** says those who bought in May and went away missed the investment boat

NET unit trust sales of £235 million in May matched the stock market mood, which reached a record. This compared with just £179 million going into building societies. Once again investors moved into the market at the top.

Timing is one of the most important decisions facing anyone investing a lump sum in equity-type investments but, if unit trust sales are representative, investors are consistently getting it wrong. Almost £2 billion, a record, was invested in unit trusts during the three months before the 1987 stock market crash, the Unit Trust Association says.

Mary Blair, Fidelity Investments product development director, said: "As markets rise, people fear they will lose out and try to get in." That is exaggerated, she says, as unit trust firms find their advertising more effective as markets rise and advertise more.

The so-called "Royal event" would certainly back her view. In September 1987 — a month before the crash — Royal Life launched three unit trusts in the most spectacular and successful unit trust marketing campaign yet. Some 135,000 private investors parted with a total of £240



Buying at the top of the market or selling at the bottom

million that was soon worth considerably less.

A spokesman for Royal Life said: "Unfortunately, nothing succeeds like success. If we had tried to do the same thing in November 1987 they would have said 'You must be joking', but they would have done much better in returns."

Mike Bishop, UK investment director of Gartmore, said: "When markets are very low and interest rates are very high, you should be

looking at getting into markets.

Give up 15 per cent on the street and put it into equity markets as they are probably very low. The converse is when interest rates are very low and markets very high, and it looks as if the last thing you should do is sell your shares and put money on deposit, it is likely you should do just that."

But how does an investor judge how high the market is? Over the long term a stock market should continue on a

rising, if erratic, trend in anticipation of an economy's growth.

So professional investment managers rarely look at a share price in isolation when measuring how expensive or cheap it is. Put simply, investment managers look at price/earnings ratios (p/e) and dividend yields. A p/e ratio is calculated by dividing the price of a share by the earnings per share reported at the last year end.

The dividend yield is the previous year's total gross dividend as a percentage of the share price. Both are quoted next to the share price in newspapers' financial pages.

Kenneth King, investment director of Kleinwort Benson Investment Management, said as a general rule the average p/e ratio should never exceed 20 or fall below 5 in Britain. When inflation rates were high p/e ratios should be lower and vice versa. The traditional rule regarding dividend yields was that shares were a buy when the stock market's average dividend yield exceeded 5 per cent.

Another commonly used ratio is reverse yield. This is the ratio of a long-dated gilt's yield to the stock market's yield. This ratio has fluctuated between about 2 and 2.7, but there is some debate today over whether it may not be moving to a lower band because inflation is so low.

Last week the p/e ratio of the FT 500 share index was close to 15.2, the gross dividend yield of the FT All-share index was 4.93 per cent and the reverse yield ratio was a little under 2. Bearing in mind the low inflation rate, these ratios all seem to be at about the right level.

To reduce any short-term loss when investing a lump sum, investors should put it into shares or unit trusts over a number of months. If they want to invest using a Personal equity plan, groups such as Fidelity offer Peps which put investments on deposit and switch them into the stock market over six months.

## Taxman takes Pep out of jointly owned equity

By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

INLAND Revenue rules are preventing up to 50 per cent of investors from using share exchange schemes to put money into Personal equity plans. The Revenue has ruled shares held in joint names cannot be used to fund Peps.

This means Pep managers offering share exchange schemes are having to turn away up to half the investments offered. Only newly is-

sued shares can be transferred into Peps without being sold first. But fund managers can accept shareholdings via exchange schemes. They sell the shares or put them in their own funds and place cash in the Pep for the investor. In this way Pep managers can attract new business and investors can dispose of any number of shareholdings without incurring commission.

The schemes are increasing in popularity but, as half the shares sent in for exchange are

in spouses' joint names, they are causing problems when investors are told by some managers they must re-register the shares in a single name or sell them themselves. The first suggestion can take up to two months by the time the new certificates are returned and the second may involve considerable expense if there are many share certificates.

The Revenue says it cannot allow share certificates in joint names to be used to fund Peps as it is not clear from whom

the money comes. It refuses to allow jointly held certificates to be used, even where a couple want to use half of the shares each to set up a tax-free Pep. Pep's rules state managers must be sure each investment in the plans, which are free of income and capital gains tax, is made by the person whose name is on the Pep. Because of this it says, jointly held shares are not acceptable.

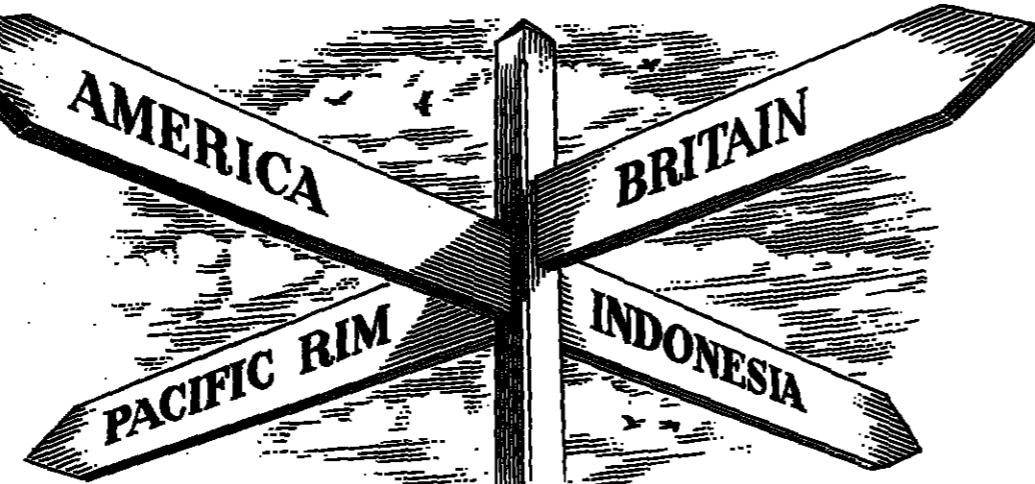
Pep managers fear the next stage will be a refusal to accept cheques written on joint ac-

counts as the ownership of the money is not clearer than that for jointly held shares. Most investors hold the shares jointly to avoid probate problems when one partner dies.

Anne McMechan, managing director of Framlington Unit Trust Managers, said: "The Revenue needs a clear indication of where the money has come from for a Pep. You could have a couple with a certificate for £12,000 of shares who want to sell and reinvest in a Pep each and it would not be allowed."

The Revenue said the onus was on managers to ensure the money belongs to the Pep applicant. With a joint shareholding this was not possible.

# £30 per month can go far these days



With award winning Scottish expertise

INVESTMENT TRUST PURCHASE SCHEME

**Award winning performance**  
Edinburgh Fund Managers has been awarded "What Investment" Magazine's Investment Trust Management Group of the Year for 1992.

**Spread of Risk**  
Investment trusts managed by Edinburgh Fund Managers give you access to a well-spread portfolio of shares in a range of international markets.

**Regular Savings**  
You can build up a really worthwhile capital sum through The EFM Investment Trust Purchase Scheme by investing in your choice of trust from only £30 per month or alternatively in lump sums from £5.25. Charges and commissions (including stamp duty but excluding selling costs) are all low — currently only 1p for every £30 invested.

Please note that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of shares and the income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount they invested. Edinburgh Fund Managers is one of Scotland's most successful investment trust managers with over £925 million invested in investment trusts around the world.

For further information call free on 0800 515 852 or complete the coupon.

**American Trust Plc**  
1st in sector over five years\* For capital and income growth, investing principally in United States equities.

**The British Investment Trust Plc**  
5th in sector over five years\* For capital growth and regular increases in dividends from a portfolio of international investments.

**EFM Dragon Trust Plc**  
1st in sector over three years\* For capital growth through investments in the Far East (excluding Japan and Australasia).

**EFM Java Trust Plc**  
The only UK registered investment trust to invest in Indonesia. For capital growth.

**Malvern UK Index Trust Plc**  
The only investment trust to track the FTSE All Share Index. For capital and income growth.

\*Source: ATTC, NAV total return, to 30th April 1992.  
Source: Money Management, mid rate to mid rate, net income reinvested, to 1st April 1992.

To Edinburgh Fund Managers Plc, 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7JB.  
Please send me details about The EFM Investment Trust Purchase Scheme.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Information may be used for marketing purposes.

**Edinburgh**  
FUND MANAGERS PLC

Edinburgh Fund Managers Plc, 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7JB. Member of IMRO.

## STUDENT FINANCE

will be the subject of a special Times Feature in "Weekend Money" on

SATURDAY AUGUST 15th

If you would like to advertise call

Alex Knightly on 071 782 7523

or

Simon Broch on 071 782 7115

NEED ADVICE  
ON A PERSONAL  
EQUITY PLAN?

Ring our free Moneyline  
from 9.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.,  
7 days a week, on

0800 282 101

**SAVE &  
PROSPER**  
THE INVESTMENT LINE  
Member of IMRO and LOMRO

— A Better PEP — A Better Price —

# PEPs. Save Tax and Save £180.

Many PEP investors may well pay more than they have to in initial charges.

On average, 5.6% of the original investment will be deducted immediately in charges.

At Fidelity we thought long-term investors deserved a better deal, so we've cut our initial charges from 5.25% to 2%.

This will give you an immediate saving of over £180 on a £6,000 investment in your 1992/93 Fidelity PEP.

Whether you're looking for tax-free income or tax-free growth, the sooner

you invest, the sooner your money will start working for you.

So call us free on 0800 414191 today (we're open all weekend), or complete the coupon below. Alternatively

ask your Independent Financial Adviser for full details about the low cost Fidelity PEP.

**CALLFREE OPEN  
0800 414191 9am-9pm**

To Fidelity Investments, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0DZ  
Please send me details of the new Fidelity PEP.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
So that we can call you to answer any questions you have.

**Fidelity Investments**

CURRENCY FUNDS FROM PRUDENTIAL

## "I want to get more than the same old interest rates I see advertised every weekend"

You want to consider currency funds from Prudential.

They offer you the potential for higher returns than a building society account but without the volatility of international equity markets.

Invest as little as £1,000 in our funds and Prudential's Managers will help you to benefit from specially selected interest rates — rates that are not usually available to the private investor.

How can Prudential do this?

By taking advantage of favourable movements in currency exchange rates and of the special interest rates, Prudential gives you the opportunity to enjoy a higher return on your savings. A return that you can use to build up your capital or provide a regular income.

Post the coupon today or call us free quoting reference A15 if you want to see something different by next weekend.

Prudential Money Funds Limited is a Guernsey A1 Scheme. Prudential Currency Fund Limited is a Jersey Recognised Fund. Both are UK Recognised Collective Investment Schemes.

The value of investments and the income from them can fluctuate in value in money terms and is not guaranteed, and investors may not get back the amount invested. Changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to fluctuate.

This advertisement has been issued on behalf of Prudential Money Funds Limited and Prudential Currency Fund Limited by Prudential Investment Products (Channel Islands) Limited which is a member of LAUTRO.

CALL FREE NOW ON  
0800 24 44 44

I want something simple that makes my savings work harder. Send me details about currency funds from Prudential

Mr/Mrs/Ms \_\_\_\_\_  
Forenames \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening)  
Tel (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening)

Data Protection Act 1988. The Prudential may from time to time want to provide you with details of its full range of services and products.

Please tick here if you do not wish to receive this information.

We will not pass your name to any unconnected organisation.

**PRUDENTIAL**

TN107925

## Direct debits and British Gas

From D. W. H. Stevenson  
Sir, A word of warning to Mr West of Banstead (Weekend Money letters, July 4) about his success in persuading British Gas to operate direct debit on his quarterly account, his satisfaction may turn a little sour as mine did when I achieved the same result.

The problem, as far as I am concerned, is that British Gas is unable to give a date when it will debit my current account.

Unlike BT and Seaboard, whose accounts clearly state the proposed debit date, British Gas's accounts are silent on the subject. A letter of enquiry to the regional office resulted in a convoluted reply which a) blamed their computer and b) tried to explain that the date of debit depended on the relationship of the account date to one of its four fixed

direct debit days' each month after allowing 14 days credit grace.

I have yet to come up with a formula which accurately forecasts the date.

If, like me, Mr West receives a monthly salary or pension paid on the same day each month, this makes juggling the current account balance difficult. I now find I pay my quarterly gas bill sometimes with only a two-month gap, sometimes with four (counting in paydays) and my annual phased budgeted cashflow is in tatters.

Yours faithfully,  
D. W. H. STEVENSON,  
The Croft,  
Lewes Road,  
Lindfield,  
Haywards Heath,  
West Sussex.

## Redundancy and receivership

From Mr Graham Taylor  
Sir, My employer, a plc for whom I had worked only a few months, made me redundant owing me two months' wages.

My solicitor served a statutory demand (form 4.1) with a view to bringing the company into receivership and then claiming back wages from the Department of Employment via the receiver on form 1P1.

The solicitor now informs me he cannot do this as there are no assets with which to pay the receiver.

How can this impasse be resolved? The company has now ceased trading.

Yours sincerely,  
GRAHAM TAYLOR,  
2 Rookery Drive,  
Nantwich,  
Cheshire.



## Wills and solicitors

From Mr Peter Wade  
Sir, Your advice on wills (June 20) was interesting. You state that making a will on a printed form may be adequate. I suppose the reason for this is to save the solicitor's fees of "anything from £30 - £100". Surely at least if a solicitor makes a mistake the beneficiaries have the opportunity of suing such a solicitor.

If I were to be a beneficiary under a will, I would be happy to advance the potential testator the solicitor's fees so that I get my money. Homemade wills are, according to lawyers, a great source of fees from the ensuing litigation.

Yours faithfully,  
P. R. WADE,  
70 Heath Road,  
Colchester, Essex.

## Mr and Mrs or Mrs and Mr

From Mr Malcolm Morgan  
Sir, In The Times (July 6) you wrote of the Abbey National refusing to compensate widows whose husbands died during the flotation period.

My father died during that period and had a joint account with my mother.

She has been refused shares

on the grounds that he was the

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,  
27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

## Pensions in France

From T. D. A. Reay  
Sir, I hope that I can give a "clear answer" to Brian Shelley of ICIS-LOR Group, (Weekend Money letters, June 27) concerning his employees in France in respect of whom he is paying 40 per cent of payroll costs into the French social security system.

The employees, and their employer, will in fact be contributing to compulsory "complementary" pension schemes as well as to French social security. The complementary schemes are affiliated to one of the two "umbrella" organ-

isations known as ARRCO and AGIRC, which are autonomous organisations technically independent from the state.

As far as social security is concerned, there is an agreement between the member states of the European Community that entitles employees who have worked in more than one member state to a proportionate social security pension from each state in which they have worked. The calculation is quite complicated, but if (for example) an employee has worked for a quarter of his career in France and three-quarters of his

career in the UK, he will (very approximately) receive one-quarter of a full French retirement pension from the French social security authorities, and three-quarters of a full UK retirement pension from the DSS.

Turning to complementary pensions, contributions are applied to purchase pension "points", which are revalued each year and are used to buy a pension when the employee retires. These "points" are non-forfeitable, and their value is not affected by where the employee works after he has acquired them. Therefore, an employee who works in

France for three years simply acquires three years' worth of pension points: the pension purchased by these points is paid to him when he retires, even if he is not living in France at the time.

Yours faithfully,  
T. D. A. REAY,  
Bacon & Woodrow,  
Actuaries and Consultants,  
St Olaf House,  
London Bridge City, SE1.

Letters are welcome, but The Times regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns.

## Campaign plan

From Mr John Canty  
Sir, Major Corrigan's account (July 4) of the greed demonstrated by NatWest Bank to his wife is, sadly, all too typical and true. However, as a military man did he do a full appreciation of the situation and try different executions? (Or have the headings changed since my day?)

My wife fell out with her bank and their bumbling sticky-fingeredness and, despite their financial restitution on being challenged, had a struggle to get it through to them that this account was to

be closed/finished/terminated/zapped/outed/downed, eventually necessitating direct action on her part and another letter to the bank in words of one syllable to effect this closure. Not wishing to undercut the market, she then had the chutzpah to charge them their own rate (£20) for her letter to them!

Feeling this vicious banking habit of charging for letters to be immoral, she instructed them to make the payment to the Salvation Army, with whom we have no connection, which they did that very day!

In fairness, perhaps I should say that this was NatWest as well!

My simplification of the banks' greed syndrome is that modern banks are run 70 per cent by totally mindless automatons (computers), 20 per cent by relatively mindless automatons (jobsworth slaves to the computer) and 10 per cent by human beings — the trick is to penetrate to this vanishing breed. So go to it, Mrs Corrigan, vary your approach and maybe NatWest will absorb these vicious charges — or even wind up paying for the little girl's education!

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN CANTY,  
29 Blackthorn,  
Bishop's Stortford,  
Hertfordshire.

## THE VIEW FROM SAVE &amp; PROSPER

UK market drifting through a period of indecision... another cut in interest rates fails to impress US market... Japan's economic woes continue... Hong Kong leads the way in the Pacific Region... Europe has the potential for good returns.

## UNITED KINGDOM

Summer doldrums set in.

■ Equities are now cheaper than gilts for the first time since 1974, apart from one week during the Gulf War — historically a strong buying signal.

■ Market correction has occurred on little selling. The wave of new issues and the Wellcome offer will soak up a lot of cash and could impede progress short term.

■ Possibility of BP cutting its dividend has caused concern. If cut takes place, expect others to follow suit.

■ Interest rate cut needed desperately but the Government is paralysed by its commitment to ERM. We expect interest rates of 7½% within the next nine months.

■ Year-on-year bankruptcies for May were down 15%, the fifth consecutive month of decline. Market at the moment choosing to ignore such pieces of good news.

## UNITED STATES

Economic recovery remains sluggish.

■ The Fed's move to cut interest rates to 3% (the lowest level in 29 years) highlights concern for the economy and also politics. It is hoped this will be enough to generate the confidence needed to boost the economy. The stock market, having anticipated the rate cut, fell on the news.

■ US dollar weakness causing concern but unlikely to rally until either stronger economic growth or lower German interest rates.

■ Bond market has performed strongly on the back of lower interest rates, low inflation and sluggish economic growth. This should continue to provide the equity market with support at its current level.

■ Mortgage applications are again showing signs of a pick-up, hopefully leading to increased consumer confidence.

## JAPAN

Sentiment remains depressed — equities are vulnerable.

■ We expect interest rates could be cut within the next month. However, we believe the current economic downturn will not now bottom until the first quarter of 1993.

■ The slowing economy may mean a revision down in corporate results. This would be bad for equities and may cause a further drop in the Nikkei Dow, perhaps to 13,000.

■ Bank of Japan under pressure to introduce a supplementary budget and provide a fiscal stimulus to the economy. Inflation at 2.0% for May was of no concern.

■ Bond market has performed well, independent of the weakness in equities, on prospects of an interest rate cut.

## PACIFIC REGION

Potential for strong market gains.

■ Hong Kong Hang Seng Index started the month at an all-time high despite profit-taking at the 6,000 level. Trend in the market remains upward.

■ Despite election of new (temporary) Prime Minister, situation in Thailand remains uncertain, with foreign investors on the sidelines.

■ After strong rises following the election of Prime Minister Fidel Ramos, the Philippine market is suffering from profit-taking.

■ Korean market, having recently hit its four-year low, offers exciting potential for 1993 and beyond.

## EUROPE

Markets expected to be quiet during the summer.

■ Despite disappointing money supply figures, we still expect the Bundesbank to begin to ease German interest rates in the fourth quarter of 1992. Italy recently

exhibited its commitment to ERM by raising interest rates 1% to stabilise the Lira.

■ French market is expected to be subdued until the Maastricht referendum on 20th September.

■ Weakness in US dollar will dampen some European company earnings from their US markets, and may cause disappointment.

■ European equity markets continue to offer the potential for good returns. A year from now, we would expect stock market gains of between 15-30%.

## CURRENT RECOMMENDED SAVE &amp; PROSPER FUNDS

## UNITED KINGDOM

*Smaller Companies Income Fund* for improving performance from smaller companies. *Capital Portfolio* as long-term core holding. *Managed Portfolio PEP* for tax-free investment.

## UNITED STATES

*United States Growth Fund* for its exposure to stocks likely to benefit first from recovery from recession.

## JAPAN

*Japan Growth Fund* for a broad spread of larger companies.

**PACIFIC REGION** *Eastern Discovery Fund, Korea Fund and South East Asia Growth Fund* for the region's long-term growth potential.

## EUROPE

*European Growth Fund* for its high weighting in large companies.

If you would like the latest fact sheet about Save & Prosper's current views on the world's major stock markets or if you require further information on any of the funds mentioned above, just ring the telephone number below, or talk to your financial adviser.

CALL FREE 0800 282 101

9.00 a.m. — 5.30 p.m. 7 DAYS A WEEK

Save & Prosper Group Ltd., FREEPOST, Romford RM1 1BR.

This view of world investment markets contains the opinions of Save & Prosper at the time of going to press. It is intended as an information service for investors and Save & Prosper does not accept liability for any loss resulting from reliance on its opinions. Investors should consult their own financial advisers in respect of their own circumstances in the light of then-current views of the markets.

The value of stock market investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise. Tax concessions are subject to statutory change.

Save & Prosper Group Limited is a member of IMRO and Lautro.

SAVE & PROSPER  
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

## Mr and Mrs or Mrs and Mr

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

Yours sincerely,  
MALCOLM MORGAN,

27 Blenheim Road,

West Sussex.

first named depositor. If the account had been designated "Mrs and Mr" instead my mother would have qualified for the shares.

Talk about hiding behind the small print!

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE





Silverstone's lap record takes a pounding on the first day of timed practice for the British grand prix

# Masterful Mansell blazes a memorable trail

By NORMAN HOWELL

**NIGEL** Mansell produced an astonishing display at Silverstone yesterday during the first day of timed practice for the British grand prix tomorrow.

He repeatedly shattered the circuit's lap record and, by two o'clock when the session ended, he had left his team-mate, Riccardo Patrese, nearly two seconds adrift. The next man was Ayrton Senna, the world champion, who is just under three seconds behind the Englishman.

The large crowd was left speechless, then roared its approval at the feats of the Williams-Renault driver, who is beginning to develop the kind of aura about him that Senna has had for the past two years.

The extraordinary thing about the Nigel Mansell Show was that, on Thursday, he had said it would be very difficult to dip under one minute 20 seconds.

"If I can make it under 1:19, I will be very pleased with myself," he said. "It would be quite an achievement."

Mansell, aged 38, broke the barrier no fewer than five times, fighting his way through the traffic and G-forces to master one of the biggest and most testing race tracks in the world.

Behind him lay a motoring wasteland. All the other leading drivers and teams gave everything but looked to be in a different league.

Mansell was out for 20 laps, pounding away at a circuit which he, more than any driver, has made his own. Afterwards, he looked shattered.

"It was a perfect lap," he said. "Today, I was optimistic that I would lap under 1:20. Doing 1:18 was unreal."

"But I'm in pain. Everything aches; my head and my teeth — I had to clench them so hard to stop them chattering — and my stomach."

The G-forces, especially at this track, are something that has to be really reckoned with.

GRAND PRIX WINNERS TABLE	
GP Races Wins	
A Prost (Fr)	184 44
A Senna (Br)	134 34
J Stewart (GB)	99 27
N Mansell (GB)	173 27
J Clark (GB)	127 27
N Lund (Austria)	171 25
J M Fangio (Arg)	51 24
N Piquet (Br)	204 23
S Moss (GB)	66 16
J Brabham (Aus)	126 14
E Fittipaldi (Br)	144 14
G Hill (GB)	176 14
Other British	
J Hunt	92 10
J Surtees	111 6
J Watson	152 6
M Hawthorn	50 3
Ireland	

A Prost (Fr) 184 44

A Senna (Br) 134 34

J Stewart (GB) 99 27

N Mansell (GB) 173 27

J Clark (GB) 127 27

N Lund (Austria) 171 25

J M Fangio (Arg) 51 24

N Piquet (Br) 204 23

S Moss (GB) 66 16

J Brabham (Aus) 126 14

E Fittipaldi (Br) 144 14

G Hill (GB) 176 14

Other British

J Hunt 92 10

J Surtees 111 6

J Watson 152 6

M Hawthorn 50 3

Ireland

You have to commit yourself here at Silverstone. If you do, it's going to hurt."

Mansell also praised his team for the work they did. "We had some problems this morning," he said. "This afternoon, I did my time in the race car, which was equipped with the new RS4 engine."

He felt that, as reliability is paramount, the team would probably decide to race with the older RS3 on Sunday. Older it may be but it still has the measure of the other engines on the grid.

Behind the two Williams-Renaults, Senna did all he could to limit the damage. But there is only so much a driver can do.

"The laps I did with my first set of tyres were good and I may have gone a bit quicker with the second," the world champion said. "But the reality is that these results reflect our weaknesses and their strengths."

Senna was referring to the chassis problems that McLaren are doing their best to rectify. It seems that there will be some aerodynamic tweaks today that the team hopes will make a significant difference.

It seems odd that McLaren has this kind of fundamental chassis weakness yet can still spend £150,000 to equip their pits with three mobile workshops, which are suspended above the cars.

Mansell's times were so extraordinary that many of the other drivers were astounded by what he had done.

Patrese commented that this was the circuit where he would always feel that, in a straight fight with his teammate, he would come off second best.

"We both drove well and we both have superb cars," Patrese said. "But here he can find that little bit extra that, quite literally, makes him fly."

Michael Schumacher put in a good performance, as always. He finished the session just behind Senna — and on a circuit on which he has never driven in "anger".

His first acquaintance was during the June test this year, so his drive was once more of the first order. "Yes, I am happy with my performance," the young German said. "But I think I can do better tomorrow."

Mansell's brilliance in practice obscured any other piece of news or driver performance on the track.

It might also have helped concentrate the minds of the men who, very soon, will have to take an important decision regarding who will be driving for the Williams-Renault team in 1993.

Patrese commented that this was the circuit where he would always feel that, in a straight fight with his teammate, he would come off second best.

"We both drove well and we both have superb cars," Patrese said. "But here he can find that little bit extra that, quite literally, makes him fly."

Michael Schumacher put in a good performance, as always. He finished the session just behind Senna — and on a circuit on which he has never driven in "anger".

His first acquaintance was during the June test this year, so his drive was once more of the first order. "Yes, I am happy with my performance," the young German said. "But I think I can do better tomorrow."

Mansell would like to know what is going on, as he disclosed here on Thursday. Whatever the outcome of the meeting, it would seem amazing to contemplate a Williams-Renault team without him.

If he wins on Sunday, he must surely be able to name his price; and he will have earned that right.



A word in your ear: Mansell, right, chats with a Williams-Renault team official at Silverstone yesterday after a tyre-testing session in preparation for the British grand prix

**TIMES**

## OPENING QUALIFYING SESSION: 1, N Mansell (GB), 60.0sec; 2, R Patrese (It), 3, M Schumacher (Ger), 19.95sec; 4, J Alesi (It), 23.344kph/148.04 mph; 5, B Gachot (Fr), 22.0884; 6, A Senna (Br), 21.706, 4, M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 22.066; 5, G Berger (Aus), McLaren, 22.071; 6, J Brundle (GB), Benetton, 22.489; 7, J Herbert (GB), Lotus, 22.605; 8, J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 22.723; 9, M Hakkinen (Fin), Lotus, 22.813; 10, E Comas (Fr), Ligier, 22.957; 11, B Gachot (Fr), Venturi, 22.964; 12, S Brundle (GB), Williams, 23.159; 13, J Boutsen (Bel), Ligier, 22.545; 14, I Capelli (It), Ferrari, 22.558; 15, G Tarquini (It), Fondmetal, 22.761; 16, U Katayama (Japan), Venturi, 22.853; 17, A Suzuki (Japan), Footwork, 22.953; 18, J Alesi (It), Tyrrell, 22.984; 19, J Lehto (Fin), Dallara, 22.937; 20, O Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 22.996; 21, K Wendlinger (Austria), Dallara, 22.521; 22, P Marti (It), Dallara, 22.521; 23, S Modena (It), Jordan, 22.521; 24, G Berger (Aus), Footwork, 22.588; 25, G Mohr (GB), Minardi, 22.588; 26, D Hill (GB), Brabham, 22.378; 27, A Zanardi (It), Minardi, 22.458; 28, A Belmondo (Fr), March, 22.795; 29, A Checa (Switz), Fondmetal, 22.862; 30, E Van de Poele (Bel), Brabham, 22.871.

**OPENING QUALIFYING SESSION: 1, N Mansell (GB), 60.0sec; 2, R Patrese (It), 3, M Schumacher (Ger), 19.95sec; 4, J Alesi (It), 23.344kph/148.04 mph; 5, B Gachot (Fr), 22.0884; 6, A Senna (Br), 21.706, 4, M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 22.066; 5, G Berger (Aus), McLaren, 22.071; 6, J Brundle (GB), Benetton, 22.489; 7, J Herbert (GB), Lotus, 22.605; 8, J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 22.723; 9, M Hakkinen (Fin), Lotus, 22.813; 10, E Comas (Fr), Ligier, 22.957; 11, B Gachot (Fr), Venturi, 22.964; 12, S Brundle (GB), Williams, 23.159; 13, J Boutsen (Bel), Ligier, 22.545; 14, I Capelli (It), Ferrari, 22.558; 15, G Tarquini (It), Fondmetal, 22.761; 16, U Katayama (Japan), Venturi, 22.853; 17, A Suzuki (Japan), Footwork, 22.953; 18, J Alesi (It), Tyrrell, 22.984; 19, J Lehto (Fin), Dallara, 22.937; 20, O Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 22.996; 21, K Wendlinger (Austria), Dallara, 22.521; 22, P Marti (It), Dallara, 22.521; 23, S Modena (It), Jordan, 22.521; 24, G Berger (Aus), Footwork, 22.588; 25, G Mohr (GB), Minardi, 22.588; 26, D Hill (GB), Brabham, 22.378; 27, A Zanardi (It), Minardi, 22.458; 28, A Belmondo (Fr), March, 22.795; 29, A Checa (Switz), Fondmetal, 22.862; 30, E Van de Poele (Bel), Brabham, 22.871.**

## McCarthy misses the mark

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

LUCK has not exactly attached itself to Perry McCarthy this season, so yesterday was par for the course. The Essex driver failed to qualify for the British grand prix at Silverstone tomorrow as ill-fortune again dogged his performance.

McCarthy, aged 31, who has sold everything, including his house, in his attempt to make it into Formula One racing, failed to achieve one of the required top-four pre-qualifying places at Silverstone.

The other qualifiers were Gabriele Tarquini, of Italy, and Andrea Chiesa, of Switzerland, in Epsilon F1.

McCarthy's impoverished team, only able to run one car, could only give him two laps,

on wet tyres on a drying track, registering a time of 1min 46.719sec, leaving him in sixth place.

Bertrand Gachot, of Belgium, in a Venturi-Larrousse, was the fastest, registering 1min 46.50sec. McCarthy has now failed to pre-qualify five times this season.

The other qualifiers were Gabriele Tarquini, of Italy, and Andrea Chiesa, of Switzerland, in Epsilon F1.

Silverstone officials have insisted that their track would stay the home of British Formula One racing. The Northamptonshire track's future as the venue for the British grand prix was said to be threatened

by the breakdown of a multi-million pound investment deal.

The head of the Benetton racing team, Tom Walkinshaw, was reported to be behind a deal that involved Silverstone investing in one of his companies, to generate income for another revamp of the circuit. But Ken Tyrrell, head of a rival team, is among opponents who have blocked the plan, forming a defence committee.

A spokeswoman for Silverstone, Corinna Phillips, said: "The future of the British grand prix here is as assured as any race can be. We have a contract to stage the grand prix until 1996 and I don't expect any change in that."

Today 06.00: Gates open.

06.00-11.00: Limited practice for Formula One cars.

11.45-12.15: Pit road walkabout.

13.00-14.00: Second timed qualifying for Formula One cars.

14.40: British Formula Three championship race (15 laps).

15.30-16.40: Pit road walkabout for Formula One cars.

16.15: Vauxhall Lotus Euroseries race (15 laps).

17.00: Tom's petit prix race (4 laps).

17.45: Parade of Saturday's winners (15 laps).

18.30-19.45: Pit road walkabout for Formula One cars.

19.30: Pit lane opening for F1 cars.

20.00: British grand prix (60 laps).

21.15: Eso RAC British touring car championship race (15 laps).



Patrese: adrift in second

**POSITIONS (after eight rounds)**  
Drivers' championship: 1, N Mansell (GB), 60.0sec; 2, R Patrese (It), 3, M Schumacher (Ger), 19.95sec; 4, A Senna (Br), 21.706; 5, B Herbert (GB), 22.066; 6, G Berger (Aus), 22.071; 7, M Brundle (GB), 22.489; 8, M Alboreto (It), 22.545; 9, A de Cesaris (It), 22.558; 10, K Wendlinger (Austria), 22.588; 11, J Brundle (GB), 22.605; 12, P Marti (It), 22.611; 13, I Capelli (It), 22.611; 14, B Gachot (Fr), 22.611; 15, A Senna (Br), 22.611; 16, J Herbert (GB), 22.611; 17, M Hakkinen (Fin), 22.611; 18, G Tarquini (It), 22.611; 19, G Berger (Aus), 22.611; 20, J Brundle (GB), 22.611; 21, P Marti (It), 22.611; 22, S Brundle (GB), 22.611; 23, G Tarquini (It), 22.611; 24, G Berger (Aus), 22.611; 25, J Brundle (GB), 22.611; 26, P Marti (It), 22.611; 27, S Brundle (GB), 22.611; 28, G Tarquini (It), 22.611; 29, G Berger (Aus), 22.611; 30, J Brundle (GB), 22.611.

Constructors' championship: 1, Williams-Renault, 100pts; 2, McLaren-Honda, 36; 3, Benetton, 3; 4, Williams, 2; 5, Ligier, 1; 6, Footwork-Mugen, 5;



Tour ambushed as two team leaders escape

# Chiappucci throws down gauntlet in duel with LeMond

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

Brussels: Claudio Chiappucci, of Italy, and the American, Greg LeMond, laid a perfect ambush in the sixth stage of the Tour de France to Brussels yesterday, gaining almost a minute and a half on their main rivals.

As heavy rain began to fall with only 27km left of the 167-km stage from Wasquehal in France, the two riders got away with the Frenchman, Laurent Jalabert, and Brian Holm, of Denmark, and rapidly opened up a big gap on the main peloton. Jalabert won the sprint for the stage with Chiappucci second, Holm third and LeMond fourth.

The pack, including Pascal Lino, wearing the leader's yellow jersey, the world champion,

Gianni Bugno, of Italy, and Miguel Indurain, of Spain, the defending champion, followed 1 min 23sec later. Chiappucci's colleagues from the Italian Carrera squad had successfully nullified attempts to bridge the gap.

The brilliant subterfuge of Chiappucci, who used the smokescreen of an intermediate sprint to get away when nobody but LeMond thought he would continue, paid off as he moved up from sixth to third overall. 3min 34sec beat

Chiappucci's colleagues from the Italian Carrera squad had successfully nullified attempts to bridge the gap.

Another to climb further in the rankings was the Canadian, Steve Bauer, who came in with the peloton and moved up a place to second overall, not an unusual Tour position for the Motorola rider. In 1988 he won the first stage, wore the yellow jersey for five days and eventually finished fourth. In 1990 he was the leader for ten days before being overtaken in the mountains.

There was a serious pile-up at the back of the main peloton as the race went over cobblestones made slippery by the rain. Around 50 riders were involved and some hurt, including Moreno Argentin, a former world champion.

Yesterday's stage, bringing the Tour from Roubaix in the north of France into Belgium, was marked by the aggression of Chiappucci and LeMond. The Italian, in particular, set the pace, winning the three main hill climbs and collecting sprint points as well. In 1990 he finished a fighting second to LeMond and from yesterday's show of sparks between the two a repeat performance is promised.

Today's 196.6km stage ends in Valkenbourg, Holland.

**YESTERDAY'S DETAILS**

STO: STAGE: Roubaix to Brussels. (167km): 1. L. Jalabert (Fr. ONCE) 3hr 37min 0sec; 2. C. Chiappucci (It. Carrera) 3hr 37min 23sec; 3. G. LeMond (Us. Motorola) 3hr 37min 22sec; 4. J. Bugno (It. Carrera) 3hr 37min 23sec; 5. M. Indurain (Sp. Zerbe) 3hr 37min 23sec; 6. W. Nielsen (Den. Team) 3hr 37min 24sec; 7. S. Bauer (Can. Motorola) 3hr 37min 24sec; 8. B. Holm (Den. Team) 3hr 37min 24sec; 9. G. LeMond (Us. Motorola) 3hr 37min 24sec; 10. J. Nizam (Ind. Holland) 3hr 37min 24sec; 11. E. De Witte (Bel. Telekom) 3hr 37min 24sec; 12. M. Ghiotto (It. Carrera) 3hr 37min 24sec; 13. J. G. G. van der Poel (Ned. Tulip) 3hr 37min 24sec; 14. E. Boyer (Fr. 22-64) 3hr 37min 24sec; 15. D. Ghezzi (It. Carrera) 3hr 37min 24sec; 16. R. Alcalde (Sp. Zerbe) 3hr 37min 24sec; 17. S. Kelly (Irl. Festini) 3hr 37min 24sec; 18. P. Delgado (Sp. Zerbe) 3hr 37min 24sec; 19. F. Chiodi (It. G.M.G. Boys) 3hr 37min 24sec; 20. A. Hampon (Us. Motorola) 3hr 37min 24sec.

Today's stage: Brussels-Valkenbourg. 196.6km

# Strong grounds for sticking with Steerforth in cup

STEERFORTH is taken to win the John Smith's Magnet Cup at York today now that there will be some give in the ground.

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

been laid low with a virus. However, that very promising run at Sandown was a strong hint of better things to come.

It is virtually impossible to separate Lucky Guest and Wild Fireview who had the finish of a similar race on today's track in June to themselves.

On that occasion they carried the same weight and Lucky Guest won by a short head. On 1lb better terms Legal View could well come out in front this time, especially as that was his first race of the season.

The softer ground will also favour Aranyi, whose stable came up trumps with Hallpokus on the corresponding occasion last year. It will also help Mr Confusion

As it is Steerforth now gets the vote following that luckless run at Sandown eight days ago. On that occasion he lost a good position when badly checked three-quarters of a mile from home.

After that he was always fighting a losing battle in the race that ultimately went to Fire Top. Yet he was still beaten only just over three lengths in fifth place at the end.

It was at this stage of the season last year that Steerforth ran out an impressive winner of a ten-furlong handicap at Newmarket. This year his activity has been restricted because his stable has



Stewart: heartened by midweek rain at York

## Duffield to fill another gap

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

GEORGE Duffield is verging on the veteran ranks but was winning his first English classic when scoring on User Friendly in the Gold Seal Oaks at Epsom last month.

He now looks to this same filly to fill another gap in his racing career by winning an Irish classic, the Kildangan Stud Irish Oaks, at the Curragh this afternoon.

It was certainly a most stylish performance which User Friendly produced at Epsom where, in the closing stages, she went right away from the Henry Cecil-trained favourite

All At Sea to win by three-and-a-half lengths with a 20-length gap to the third.

Unraced at two, User Friendly is still improving, according to her trainer, Clive Brittain, who also expects his second string Armarama to give a good account of herself. However, Armarama is held by Iyanna on Oaks d'Italia form, finishing a length behind the Bolger filly, who was having her first run of the season at San Siro.

The Curragh has had its fair share of rain during the past few days and although it was drying out yesterday, further rain was forecast overnight.

It that proves to be correct, it could militate against another smart Irish runner Market Booster. She has a lot of speed as was demonstrated when she upset Ruby Tiger in the ten-furlong Irish Independent Pretty Polly Stakes.

Dermot Weld makes no secret of his fear that Market Booster might not last out the extra quarter of a mile on

the Curragh.

A strong-finishing third in the Pretty Polly was the Aga Khan's Khatana, but she has been difficult to train and John Cox would have welcomed more time for her preparation.

Maurice Zilber, who produced the greatest of all Irish Oaks winners in Dahlia, now runs Pain Blanche but she finished well down the field in the French Derby behind Polynaire and prior to that had won only in his company at Enniskerry.

She would need to make considerable improvement to get a blow here against User Friendly and Iyanna who could fight out a tight finish with victory going to the raider.

It is a 13-runner group (1st O'Brien, 2nd 1st, 3rd 2nd, 4th 3rd, 5th 2nd, 6th 1st, 7th 2nd, 8th 3rd, 9th 4th, 10th 5th, 11th 6th, 12th 7th, 13th 8th, 14th 9th, 15th 10th, 16th 11th, 17th 12th, 18th 13th, 19th 14th, 20th 15th, 21st 16th, 22nd 17th, 23rd 18th, 24th 19th, 25th 20th, 26th 21st, 27th 22nd, 28th 23rd, 29th 24th, 30th 25th, 31st 26th, 32nd 27th, 33rd 28th, 34th 29th, 35th 30th, 36th 31st, 37th 32nd, 38th 33rd, 39th 34th, 40th 35th, 41st 36th, 42nd 37th, 43rd 38th, 44th 39th, 45th 40th, 46th 41st, 47th 42nd, 48th 43rd, 49th 44th, 50th 45th, 51st 46th, 52nd 47th, 53rd 48th, 54th 49th, 55th 50th, 56th 51st, 57th 52nd, 58th 53rd, 59th 54th, 60th 55th, 61st 56th, 62nd 57th, 63rd 58th, 64th 59th, 65th 60th, 66th 61st, 67th 62nd, 68th 63rd, 69th 64th, 70th 65th, 71st 66th, 72nd 67th, 73rd 68th, 74th 69th, 75th 70th, 76th 71st, 77th 72nd, 78th 73rd, 79th 74th, 80th 75th, 81st 76th, 82nd 77th, 83rd 78th, 84th 79th, 85th 80th, 86th 81st, 87th 82nd, 88th 83rd, 89th 84th, 90th 85th, 91st 86th, 92nd 87th, 93rd 88th, 94th 89th, 95th 90th, 96th 91st, 97th 92nd, 98th 93rd, 99th 94th, 100th 95th, 101st 96th, 102nd 97th, 103rd 98th, 104th 99th, 105th 100th, 106th 101st, 107th 102nd, 108th 103rd, 109th 104th, 110th 105th, 111th 106th, 112th 107th, 113th 108th, 114th 109th, 115th 110th, 116th 111th, 117th 112th, 118th 113th, 119th 114th, 120th 115th, 121st 116th, 122nd 117th, 123rd 118th, 124th 119th, 125th 120th, 126th 117th, 127th 118th, 128th 119th, 129th 120th, 130th 121st, 131st 122nd, 132nd 123rd, 133rd 124th, 134th 125th, 135th 126th, 136th 127th, 137th 128th, 138th 129th, 139th 130th, 140th 131st, 141st 132nd, 142nd 133rd, 143rd 134th, 144th 135th, 145th 136th, 146th 137th, 147th 138th, 148th 139th, 149th 140th, 150th 141st, 151st 142nd, 152nd 143rd, 153rd 144th, 154th 145th, 155th 146th, 156th 147th, 157th 148th, 158th 149th, 159th 150th, 160th 151st, 161st 152nd, 162nd 153rd, 163rd 154th, 164th 155th, 165th 156th, 166th 157th, 167th 158th, 168th 159th, 169th 160th, 170th 161st, 171st 162nd, 172nd 163rd, 173rd 164th, 174th 165th, 175th 166th, 176th 167th, 177th 168th, 178th 169th, 179th 170th, 180th 171st, 181st 172nd, 182nd 173rd, 183rd 174th, 184th 175th, 185th 176th, 186th 177th, 187th 178th, 188th 179th, 189th 180th, 190th 181st, 191st 182nd, 192nd 183rd, 193rd 184th, 194th 185th, 195th 186th, 196th 187th, 197th 188th, 198th 189th, 199th 190th, 200th 191st, 201st 192nd, 202nd 193rd, 203rd 194th, 204th 195th, 205th 196th, 206th 197th, 207th 198th, 208th 199th, 209th 200th, 210th 191st, 211st 192nd, 212nd 193rd, 213rd 194th, 214th 195th, 215th 196th, 216th 197th, 217th 198th, 218th 199th, 219th 200th, 220th 191st, 221st 192nd, 222nd 193rd, 223rd 194th, 224th 195th, 225th 196th, 226th 197th, 227th 198th, 228th 199th, 229th 200th, 230th 191st, 231st 192nd, 232nd 193rd, 233rd 194th, 234th 195th, 235th 196th, 236th 197th, 237th 198th, 238th 199th, 239th 200th, 240th 191st, 241st 192nd, 242nd 193rd, 243rd 194th, 244th 195th, 245th 196th, 246th 197th, 247th 198th, 248th 199th, 249th 200th, 250th 191st, 251st 192nd, 252nd 193rd, 253rd 194th, 254th 195th, 255th 196th, 256th 197th, 257th 198th, 258th 199th, 259th 200th, 260th 191st, 261st 192nd, 262nd 193rd, 263rd 194th, 264th 195th, 265th 196th, 266th 197th, 267th 198th, 268th 199th, 269th 200th, 270th 191st, 271st 192nd, 272nd 193rd, 273rd 194th, 274th 195th, 275th 196th, 276th 197th, 277th 198th, 278th 199th, 279th 200th, 280th 191st, 281st 192nd, 282nd 193rd, 283rd 194th, 284th 195th, 285th 196th, 286th 197th, 287th 198th, 288th 199th, 289th 200th, 290th 191st, 291st 192nd, 292nd 193rd, 293rd 194th, 294th 195th, 295th 196th, 296th 197th, 297th 198th, 298th 199th, 299th 200th, 300th 191st, 301st 192nd, 302nd 193rd, 303rd 194th, 304th 195th, 305th 196th, 306th 197th, 307th 198th, 308th 199th, 309th 200th, 310th 191st, 311st 192nd, 312nd 193rd, 313rd 194th, 314th 195th, 315th 196th, 316th 197th, 317th 198th, 318th 199th, 319th 200th, 320th 191st, 321st 192nd, 322nd 193rd, 323rd 194th, 324th 195th, 325th 196th, 326th 197th, 327th 198th, 328th 199th, 329th 200th, 330th 191st, 331st 192nd, 332nd 193rd, 333rd 194th, 334th 195th, 335th 196th, 336th 197th, 337th 198th, 338th 199th, 339th 200th, 340th 191st, 341st 192nd, 342nd 193rd, 343rd 194th, 344th 195th, 345th 196th, 346th 197th, 347th 198th, 348th 199th, 349th 200th, 350th 191st, 351st 192nd, 352nd 193rd, 353rd 194th, 354th 195th, 355th 196th, 356th 197th, 357th 198th, 358th 199th, 359th 200th, 360th 191st, 361st 192nd, 362nd 193rd, 363rd 194th, 364th 195th, 365th 196th, 366th 197th, 367th 198th, 368th 199th, 369th 200th, 370th 191st, 371st 192nd, 372nd 193rd, 373rd 194th, 374th 195th, 375th 196th, 376th 197th, 377th 198th, 378th 199th, 379th 200th, 380th 191st, 381st 192nd, 382nd 193rd, 383rd 194th, 384th 195th, 385th 196th, 386th 197th, 387th 198th, 388th 199th, 389th 200th, 390th 191st, 391st 192nd, 392nd 193rd, 393rd 194th, 394th 195th, 395th 196th, 396th 197th, 397th 198th, 398th 199th, 399th 200th, 400th 191st, 401st 192nd, 402nd 193rd, 403rd 194th, 404th 195th, 405th 196th, 406th 197th, 407th 198th, 408th 199th, 409th 200th, 410th 191st, 411st 192nd, 412nd 193rd, 413rd 194th, 414th 195th, 415th 196th, 416th 197th, 417th 198th, 418th 199th, 419th 200th, 420th 191st, 421st 192nd, 422nd 193rd, 423rd 194th, 424th 195th, 425th 196th, 426th 197th, 427th 198th, 428th 199th, 429th 200th, 430th 191st, 431st 192nd, 432nd 193rd, 433rd 194th, 434th 195th, 435th 196th, 436th 197th, 437th 198th, 438th 199th, 439th 200th, 440th 191st, 441st 192nd, 442nd 193rd, 443rd 194th, 444th 195th, 445th 196th, 446th 197th, 447th 198th, 448th 199th, 449th 200th, 450th 191st, 451st 192nd, 452nd 193rd, 453rd 194th, 454th 195th, 455th 196th, 456th 197th, 457th 198th, 458th 199th, 459th 200th, 460th 191st, 461st 192nd, 462nd 193rd, 463rd 194th, 464th 195th, 465th 196th, 466th 197th, 467th 198th, 468th 199th, 469th 200th, 470th 191st, 471st 192nd, 472nd 193rd, 473rd 194th, 474th 195th, 475th 196th, 476th 197th, 477th 198th, 478th 199th, 479th 200th, 480th 191st, 481st 192nd, 482nd 193rd, 483rd 194th, 484th 195th, 485th 196th, 486th 197th, 487th 198th, 488th 199th, 489th 200th, 490th 191st, 491st 192nd, 492nd 193rd, 493rd 194th, 494th 195th, 495th 196th, 496th 197th, 497th 198th, 498th 199th, 499th 200th, 500th 191st, 501st 192nd, 502nd 193rd, 503rd 194th, 504th 195th, 505th 196th, 506th 197th, 507th 198th, 508th 199th, 509th 200th, 510th 191st, 511st 192nd, 512nd 193rd, 513rd 194th, 514th 195th, 515th 196th, 516th 197th, 517th 198th, 518th 199th, 519th 200th, 520th 191st, 521st 192nd, 522nd 193rd, 523rd 194th, 524th 195th, 525th 196th, 526th 197th, 527th 198th, 528th 199th, 529th 200th, 530th 191st, 531st 192nd, 532nd 193rd, 533rd 194th, 534th 195th, 535th 196th, 536th 197th, 537th 198th, 538th 199th, 539th 200th, 540th 191st, 541st 192nd, 542nd 193rd, 543rd 194th, 544th 195th, 545th 196th, 546th 197th, 547th 198th, 548th 199th, 549th 200th, 550th 191st, 551st 192nd, 552nd 193rd, 553rd 194th, 554th 195th, 555th 196th, 556th 197th, 557th 198th, 558th 199th, 559th 200th, 560th 191st, 561st 192nd, 562nd 193rd, 563rd 194th, 564th 195th, 565th 196th, 566th 197th, 567th 198th, 568th 199th, 569th

Hampshire have a score to settle at Lord's today with Benson and Hedges Cup on the line

# Kentish pride out to deny Marshall's final ambition

BY ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE common denominator of the Kent players who contest today's Benson and Hedges Cup final is that none of them has won anything in county cricket. Their common fear, however, will concern a man who has done almost, but not quite, everything.

Malcolm Marshall came to Hampshire in 1979. Kent, at the time, were both county champions and holders of the Benson and Hedges Cup. Since then, Kent have struggled in vain to restore some silverware to their trophy cabinet while Marshall has pursued a private dream of winning a Lord's Cup final. The twin ambitions collide today and only one can be fulfilled.

The omission in Marshall's career is remarkable. He did play in the 1983 World Cup final, which West Indies lost to India, but on the two occasions that Hampshire have reached Lord's, winning both times, he was on Test match duty. It has gnawed increasingly at his subconscious and was a compelling factor behind his signature on a new contract when, at 34, and with nothing left to prove, a quiet retirement in his native Barbados was an attractive option.

Slimmer, fitter and more obviously motivated than for

## HAMPSHIRE TEAMS

HAMPSHIRE (from): V P Terry, T C Middleton, R A Smith, D J Gower, M C J Nicholas (capt), K D James, M D Marshall, R J Parke, S D Udal, R J Maru, C A Connor, J R Aylring, A N Ayness, P J Balder.

KENT (from): T R Ward, M B Benson (capt), N R Taylor, C R Cowdrey, C A Hooper, M V Fleming, A Marsh, M A Ealham, R P Davis, M J McCague, A P Iglesias, R M Ellison.

some seasons, Marshall now has his day and he had better enjoy it while he can for, by winning a coincidental dress rehearsal on Thursday, Kent have already ensured that this is Hampshire's only chance of cup success this year.

Defeat in the NatWest Trophy, which they held, ranked with Hampshire and this could work to their advantage today. "OK, so they won the first one," Mark Nicholas, the captain, said yesterday, leaving any threat or promise unsprung.

Nicholas was far from happy with his side's performance on Thursday, citing the careless run-outs of himself and Robin Smith and an unacceptable number of noballs, notably from Marshall, as crucial factors. He does not discount a change or two, to what has been a very settled limited-overs side, even if one

is not forced by Cardigan Connor's hamstring strain. Weather conditions may sway a decision on whether Hampshire shelve their regular policy of playing two slow bowlers. Maru, who conceded 61 runs on Thursday, could make way for the seam bowler, Aylring, who might alternatively win a place at the expense of James.

Aylring, aged 25, has not fully justified the high opinions many hold of him but it was his coolly assertive batting that saw Hampshire to victory in the NatWest Trophy final last year, a day which Nicholas recalls with confused emotions.

Nicholas missed the final it had always been his ambition to play in, having had his knuckle rearranged by Wager Younis three days earlier. He has pessimistically been dreading something similar this time but the eloquent Nicholas survives to bid for a fourth one-day trophy in his eight years as captain.

Mark Benson has worked with his Australian coach, Daryl Foster, as effectively as did Chris Cowdrey with John Inverarity. That pairing so nearly won Kent the 1988 championship; for Benson and Foster, another near miss just will not do. I fancy, though, that the strength and experience of Hampshire's batting will be all too much for them.

If a Hampshire appearance at Lord's is now becoming routine, Kent's progress is more of a surprise. It is far from being a fluke, however, as they won their four group games with authority, all against first-class opposition, and have developed an efficient formula, which overcomes their shortage of stars. The acquisition of Carl Hooper has been influential. So too, the mature input of Mark Ealham, aged 22 and the son of Alan Ealham, whose flair as batsman and fielder was such a feature of the Kent side that won four cup finals in five seasons between 1974 and 1978.

Alan Ealham was captain of the 1978 double winners but for Kent, there has been nothing since. The young Ealham will be in good company as he charts new ground today but, like the others, he will have been primed by the partnership that has done so much to restore Kentish pride.

Mark Benson has worked with his Australian coach, Daryl Foster, as effectively as did Chris Cowdrey with John Inverarity. That pairing so nearly won Kent the 1988 championship; for Benson and Foster, another near miss just will not do. I fancy, though, that the strength and experience of Hampshire's batting will be all too much for them.

## HAMPSHIRE TEAMS

HAMPSHIRE: Group matches: beat Essex (41 runs), Northamptonshire (6 runs), Lancashire (38 runs); beat Gloucestershire (Quarter-final); beat Middlesex (6 wickets); Semi-final: beat Somerset (5 wickets).

KENT: Group matches: beat Somerset (31 runs), Notts (61 runs), Yorkshire (70 runs); Semi-final: beat Warwickshire (27 runs); Quarter-final: beat Derbyshire (33 runs); Semi-final: beat Surrey (2 wickets).

BETTING: Hampshire 13-8 on; Kent 5-4.

TELEVISION: BBC1: Grandstand: 10.50am, 2.15pm and 4.45pm; BBC2: 3.00pm-7.35pm; highlights 12.40am (tomorrow).



Driving force: Fleming's forceful play will be a key feature for Kent today

# Fleming's devil-may-care image belies sound technique



Fleming: ambitious

IN ONE sense, Matthew Valentine Fleming was born in the wrong era. He is the personification of the amateur cricketer who bats the ball back over the bowler's head without due concern for bat, average or pay packet. If it does not come off, no matter. His family, after all, control the second most profitable merchant bank in the City of London.

By another reckoning, he is an all-rounder for his time. Kent's recent history is littered with individuals over-ambitious about their future should they fail to eke out their 1,200 runs a season. For Fleming, the forward defensive barely exists.

Already this season he has won three Benson and Hedges gold awards, been man of the match in the NatWest Trophy and struck 44 off 44 balls against the Pakistanis. He is one of the most dangerous one-day cricketers in the game.

Such performances have earned Fleming the respect of those who would take his place. Chris Penn, one of Kent's plethora of all-rounders, is an unqualified admirer. "Match-winners are more important to a county than those who grit it out. Sometimes I want to thump Mattie, because he can start to win a game and not finish off the opposition, but more often I like to hug him. And no one

I like to hug him. And no one

has been kinder or more helpful, which was not what I expected from someone of his high-society profile."

Fleming's background — Old Etonian, Green Jacket, great nephew of Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond — has, coupled with his dashing cricket, been manna for the tabloid press. His family, staunch villagers who go around with holes in their pullovers and are first to contribute to the mending of the church roof, have tired of the publicity. (In light of their son's bat, they would do well to change the name of their Kentish mansion, Stowhill Park.)

Fleming, say his colleagues, secretly loves the constant newspaper allusion to 007's similar zest for life.

He became a county cricketer at a relatively advanced age, 24, after only two years in the Eton XI and captaining the Army. "Some people on Kent's committee were a little sceptical about taking me on. At school I was only an average player and I don't know why I improved."

"I have an eye for the ball, I suppose. It's not true that serving in Northern Ireland, being trained that death could always occur, made me play as if there were more important things in life than cricket. In truth, I have always hit the ball," Fleming said.

So, should he be the match-winner again today, in the

final against Hampshire, he might be surprised to learn that Micky Stewart, the England manager, bristles at the suggestion that his own, up-bringing had more in common with that of Graham Gooch than David Gower.

Besides, although Fleming might play in the spirit of the ancients, he is decidedly ambitious. For one thing, he is far more keen to captain Kent than he is to go into merchant banking.

"At the back of my mind, I know that if I fail it is not the end of the world," he said. "When I joined Kent, the great Colin Page told me I would win some matches and at other times look silly and annoy a lot of people. He was usually right."

# Milns maintains his momentum

By JACK BAILEY

DERBY/Derbyshire won last Saturday's final Division Two by 95 runs.

VARIETY may be the spice of life, and certainly one anticipated a contrast between watching the triumph of Essex against the odds on Thursday, and witnessing Derbyshire's alternate yesterday, to make the two sides required to beat Leicestershire's 201 for nine, and then qualify to entertain Durham in the next round.

As if to confirm Shepherd's point, even Richards looked uneasy, but nobody told Maynard, who looked "in" from the almost the moment he arrived. He still trades almost exclusively in drives and cuts, and his lack of the workday shot off his legs might tell.

As if to confirm Shepherd's point, even Richards looked uneasy, but nobody told Maynard, who looked "in" from the almost the moment he arrived. He still trades almost exclusively in drives and cuts, and his lack of the workday shot off his legs might tell.

Against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

While he was in full flow, Glamorgan's victory looked straightforward. Cairns, Evans and, at the end, Pick, turned well enough to turn a stroll into a struggle, but Cottee and Metson kept Glamorgan ticking over, and then came Bastien.

■ Nick Speak, Lancashire's 25-year-old batsman, is the Britannia Assurance player of the month for June. Speak was the first player to score 1,000 championship runs this season.

sterior resistance, well though they bowled.

Milns it was who won the man-of-the-match award. His undefeated 29 had helped Leicestershire reach a presentable total and now he weighed in with three good wickets for 29 runs. This steadily improving cricketer likes playing at Derby. He took 12 for 91 in a championship match here last year.

The Derbyshire slide was started by Benjamin O'Gorman, who was caught in no man's land by a lifter, and taken by Nixon down the leg side.

Thereafter, little resistance was offered, except by Adams, who played too freely to give the impression he would endure, and the eighth-wicket pair, and, in his own way, by Malcolm.

Malcolm may be one of the world's worst No. 11s, according to Conrad Hunt, but on this evidence, he is by no means the world's worst No. 10.

■ David Steele, the former England batsman, was heavily critical of Derbyshire's performance. Steele, a former Derbyshire player who was at the game as the man-of-the-match adjudicator, said: "Derbyshire will be very disappointed with that batting performance. It seems to me that the main problem was a lack of application."

He added: "I think they would be advised to spend the afternoon in the nets, but I gather they are going for a game of golf."

# Glamorgan stretch tension to the end through Bastien's last-over batting

By PETER BALL

TRENT BRIDGE: Glamorgan beat Nottinghamshire by two wickets

NAILBITING finishes to NatWest matches are supposed to happen in the gloom around 8pm. Glamorgan won yesterday at 3.10, but it could not have been more tense, a four off the last ball of the game finally earning them their place in the quarter-finals, where they will meet Warwickshire.

They could hardly have made harder work of it. At the start of the last over, bowled by Chris Lewis, the Welsh county were second favourites, needing nine to win with Watkin

and Bastien together. The batsmen's nerves held the better, as at least one run came off every ball, leaving them needing one to tie, and go through by losing fewer wickets.

Bastien ended that speculation, crashing Lewis through the close field with a four, while his partner picked up the man of the match award for his bowling, which nearly won the match on the first day.

That Field-Buss was Nottinghamshire's most effective bowler offered something to his colleagues.

If there was less in the air than on the first day, the pitch still looked invitingly green for the seam bowlers, but Lewis, Pick, Cairns and Evans got

against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

While he was in full flow, Glamorgan's victory looked straightforward. Cairns, Evans and, at the end, Pick, turned well enough to turn a stroll into a struggle, but Cottee and Metson kept Glamorgan ticking over, and then came Bastien.

■ Nick Speak, Lancashire's 25-year-old batsman, is the Britannia Assurance player of the month for June. Speak was the first player to score 1,000 championship runs this season.

Piper struggled but somehow survived nine overs at a time without a wicket, having once again showed a cool head in a crisis. He invariably chose the right strokes to make at a time when Sussex could still have won.

Watkinson were 108 for five, still needing 43, with their main batsmen gone, when Smith came in. Twenty one overs were left so there was little pressure from the clock but the pitch had deteriorated. The occasional ball lifted

against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

Piper returned after the interval and dismissed Lloyd and Reeve in consecutive overs. Both had no answer to balls that reared awkwardly as they pushed forward.

Lloyd was caught by the wicketkeeper and Reeve was

bowled out by a leg-break. Watkinson stayed with Smith as 17 watchful runs were added before Stephenson returned for his final three overs. Stephenson's fifth ball was his notorious slower one, which had Penney leg-before.

Just before lunch, Twose was deceived by a leg-break. Watkinson tossed high and Stephenson yorked Oster.

Piper struggled but somehow survived nine overs at a time without a wicket, having once again showed a cool head in a crisis. He invariably chose the right strokes to make at a time when Sussex could still have won.

Watkinson were 108 for five, still needing 43, with their main batsmen gone, when Smith came in. Twenty one overs were left so there was little pressure from the clock but the pitch had deteriorated. The occasional ball lifted

against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

Piper returned after the interval and dismissed Lloyd and Reeve in consecutive overs. Both had no answer to balls that reared awkwardly as they pushed forward.

Lloyd was caught by the wicketkeeper and Reeve was

bowled out by a leg-break. Watkinson stayed with Smith as 17 watchful runs were added before Stephenson returned for his final three overs. Stephenson's fifth ball was his notorious slower one, which had Penney leg-before.

Just before lunch, Twose was deceived by a leg-break. Watkinson tossed high and Stephenson yorked Oster.

Piper struggled but somehow survived nine overs at a time without a wicket, having once again showed a cool head in a crisis. He invariably chose the right strokes to make at a time when Sussex could still have won.

Watkinson were 108 for five, still needing 43, with their main batsmen gone, when Smith came in. Twenty one overs were left so there was little pressure from the clock but the pitch had deteriorated. The occasional ball lifted

against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

Piper returned after the interval and dismissed Lloyd and Reeve in consecutive overs. Both had no answer to balls that reared awkwardly as they pushed forward.

Lloyd was caught by the wicketkeeper and Reeve was

bowled out by a leg-break. Watkinson stayed with Smith as 17 watchful runs were added before Stephenson returned for his final three overs. Stephenson's fifth ball was his notorious slower one, which had Penney leg-before.

Just before lunch, Twose was deceived by a leg-break. Watkinson tossed high and Stephenson yorked Oster.

Piper struggled but somehow survived nine overs at a time without a wicket, having once again showed a cool head in a crisis. He invariably chose the right strokes to make at a time when Sussex could still have won.

Watkinson were 108 for five, still needing 43, with their main batsmen gone, when Smith came in. Twenty one overs were left so there was little pressure from the clock but the pitch had deteriorated. The occasional ball lifted

against him at the highest level, but he looks a better, more mature cricketer now, picking his shots with a judiciousness previously lacking when he made his first appearance for England.

Piper returned after the interval and dismissed Lloyd and Reeve in consecutive overs. Both had no answer to balls that reared awkwardly as they pushed forward.

Lloyd was caught by the wicketkeeper and Reeve was

bowled out by a leg-break. Watkinson stayed with Smith as 17 watchful runs were added before Stephenson returned for his final three overs. Stephenson's fifth ball was his notorious slower one, which had Penney leg-before.

Just before lunch, Twose was deceived by a leg-break. Watkinson tossed high and Stephenson yorked Oster.

Piper struggled but somehow survived nine overs at a time without a wicket, having once again showed a cool head in a crisis. He invariably chose the right strokes to make at a time when Sussex could still have won.

Watkinson were 108 for five, still needing 43, with their main batsmen gone, when Smith came in. Twenty one overs were left so there was little pressure from the clock but

Langer drives poorly but takes three-shot lead into final round of Scottish Open

## Montgomerie tries too hard with lead in his sights

BY MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

COLIN Montgomerie yesterday discovered the importance of not being too earnest as he forfeited a clear opportunity to take the lead in the Bell's Scottish Open championship on the King's course at the Gleneagles hotel.

The Scot dropped a shot at each of the last two holes to complete a third round of 70 for a share of second place, three shots behind Bernhard Langer, who took 67 for a total of 196, 14 under par.

Montgomerie had appeared in command of his game as, with a sand-wedge approach from 103 yards at the 13th, he left himself a putt of four feet, which he dispatched into the hole with ease.

He stepped onto the 14th tee, only 260 yards from the green because it had been advanced by officials, convinced that a birdie at the 18th would be sufficient to give him the lead. Montgomerie, however, became restless when Langer, playing in the match ahead, hit a four-iron to four feet at the 14th and holed for an eagle two.

"I think I tried to press too hard from that moment," he

said. "I want to win this tournament badly. I think possibly not badly at times, because of my affiliation with Gleneagles and because it is about time a Scot did. If I won this, then I wouldn't mind if they didn't pay me the £100,000 first prize. I'm not worried about the money. I'm lucky, sure, to be able to say, at 29, that I don't need the money, but for myself I do need to win."

Montgomerie found the green at the 14th, but took three putts. He drove into a bush at the 17th, where he had to take a penalty drop, and he took three putts again at the 18th. Montgomerie is the first to admit that at times he is his own worst enemy, and he once again struggled to camouflage his disappointment.

Mike Stewart, the tournament director, was compelled to coax Montgomerie back from his bedroom for the post-round press interview, which the player initially refused to attend. In Montgomerie's favour, it was not the prospect of being fined that brought him back down the hill to the club, but the knowledge that he had a

due to fulfil. He said: "What have I learned today? Not to ignore you chaps."

"Seriously, I suppose if I'm going to make it big in this game then I've got to digest those disappointments. I'm very tired mentally and it only goes to show why guys like Nick Faldo and Langer play fewer tournaments. This is the first time I've really felt pressure like this and I'm shattered."

"It hurts, too, because I know that I really gave away four shots, and the lead, to Bernhard over those last five holes. Now to beat him by four shots in the last round is a very tall order. He is an artist at this sort of thing and he doesn't often lose when he is out in front. I partnered him in the Ryder Cup and I found out how tough he is then. But I have to learn how to come through these pressure times. If I don't, I'll be going downhill — back in the pack, and that is not where I want to be."

Montgomerie does have a habit of allowing his temperament to get the better of him, although it is my opinion that as a player he is maturing. He has been centre-stage in Scotland this week following his superb third-place finish in the US Open, and he is heading towards the Open championships, which starts at Muirfield on Thursday, as their favourite.

Langer, however, did not drive the ball well in his 67, which he said could have been a 76, so he is still vulnerable, and Paul Curry and Mats Lanner, of Sweden, will hope that proves the case.



Eagle-eyed: Langer knocks two more strokes off par at the 14th yesterday

(Great Britain and Ireland unless stated)  
1982: B Langer 67, 68, 67, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1983: C Langer 67, 68, 69, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1984: P O'Malley (Aus) 66, 70, 65; N Faldo, 69, 62, 68, 69, 67, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1985: C Langer 67, 68, 69, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1986: P. Stewart (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1987: M Brooks (US) 65, 68, 73, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1988: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 69, 68; M McHugh (Irel) 68, 69, 67, 70, 68, 67, 196; 1989: R. St George (Aus) 66, 67, 68, 69, 67, 68, 196; 1990: D. Gilmour (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 1991: D. Gilmour (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 1992: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; B. Cresswell (US) 71, 64, 65; J. Hordley (GB) 66, 67, 68, 69, 67, 68, 196; 1993: D. Gilmour (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 1994: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 1995: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 1996: B. Cresswell (US) 71, 64, 65; J. Hordley (GB) 66, 67, 68, 69, 67, 68, 196; 1997: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 1998: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 1999: B. Cresswell (US) 71, 64, 65; J. Hordley (GB) 66, 67, 68, 69, 67, 68, 196; 2000: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2001: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2002: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2003: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2004: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2005: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2006: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2007: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2008: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2009: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2010: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2011: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2012: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2013: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2014: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2015: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2016: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2017: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2018: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2019: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2020: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2021: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2022: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2023: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2024: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2025: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2026: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2027: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2028: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2029: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2030: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2031: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2032: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2033: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2034: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2035: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2036: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2037: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2038: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2039: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2040: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2041: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2042: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2043: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2044: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2045: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2046: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2047: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2048: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2049: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2050: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2051: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2052: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2053: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2054: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2055: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2056: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2057: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2058: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2059: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2060: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2061: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2062: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2063: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2064: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2065: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2066: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2067: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2068: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2069: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2070: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2071: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2072: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2073: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2074: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2075: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2076: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2077: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2078: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2079: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2080: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2081: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2082: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2083: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2084: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2085: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2086: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2087: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2088: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2089: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2090: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2091: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2092: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2093: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2094: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2095: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2096: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2097: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2098: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2099: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2100: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2101: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2102: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2103: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2104: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2105: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2106: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2107: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2108: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2109: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2110: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2111: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2112: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2113: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2114: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2115: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2116: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2117: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2118: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2119: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2120: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2121: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2122: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2123: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2124: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2125: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2126: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2127: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2128: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2129: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2130: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2131: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2132: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2133: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2134: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2135: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2136: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2137: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2138: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2139: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2140: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2141: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2142: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2143: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2144: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2145: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2146: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2147: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2148: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2149: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2150: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2151: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2152: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2153: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2154: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2155: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 2156: C. Perry (Aus) 67, 68, 69, 70, 67, 68, 196; 2157: R. Kershaw (Aus) 70, 65, 66; 215

British supporters gather in their thousands in anticipation of home success

## Britain ready to sweep the board

By NORMAN HOWELL

THE quarter of a million British supporters who have already taken over the fields and car parks around Silverstone would provide the perfect backdrop for not only an historic win by Nigel Mansell in the British grand prix on Sunday but also for what may have, until recently, been considered a madman's wishful thinking — three British drivers on the podium.

The other men in question — assuming that Zeus, or whoever is the racing drivers' god, doesn't send a bolt of lightning out of the sky to stop Mansell in his tracks — are Martin Brundle and Johnny Herbert.

Mansell had a tremendous day yesterday, setting the best time a full two seconds ahead of his team-mate, Ricardo

Brundle did not have a good day but the man, the car and the team is such that the set-up problems he had will be overcome in time for the timed session today.

"There is lots of pressure," Brundle said, "but, oddly enough, it doesn't come from the Nigel-mania or the fact that we are at Silverstone. It stems from my result in France last week."

"I have never had so many microphones, cameras and notebooks pointed at me since then."

"It's flattering, of course, but this morning, I had to remind myself that I am a racing driver. Maybe that's why I didn't drive as well in the timed session."

Brundle is sure there will be a Benetton driver on the rostrum on Sunday. "Well, we can't do much about the Williams, can we?" he said.

"But we can have a good go at the others and I'd love to be up there myself."

Herbert still has a bit of a hobble from the horrific accident he had at Brands Hatch in a Formula 3000 race in 1988, when he nearly lost the use of both legs. He said he feels the pressure less.

"Yes, I get a bit nervous before the race," he said. "But it doesn't really matter to me that it is Silverstone. I am lucky that I am not so well known and so I don't have the kind of media pressure that Nigel or Ayrton have."

"That must be hard to handle. But I always stop for autograph hunters. This is sport and these are the supporters."

"It's why we here," said Herbert, who always manages

a smile for anyone who wants to talk to him.

The expectations are high here at Silverstone. This is truly a race track, challenging for the drivers who race in front of a very knowledgeable crowd.

Yesterday, the first day of practice, the stands were full to near capacity, a sea of Union Jacks and Mansell banners.

"Il Leone," as the British fans have also taken to calling him — after his time at Ferrari, where he was much loved by the passionate Italian fans — is relaxed.

Yesterday, he mauled the opposition. By shattering the circuit record over and over again, he has dealt a grievous blow to all the other pretenders.

This is his track and he is king.

Brundle and Herbert are both excellent drivers with good cars.

The slightest wavering by the McLarens will open the door for two British drivers who could be standing next to the future world champion in front of 120,000 people.

The attendances are already up on last year. There are some tickets left but, as Silverstone spokeswoman said:

"If Nigel goes on pole on Saturday, we may actually reach the capacity 120,000."

Nigel-mania has allowed some of the other matters to go on more discreetly than usual. One is that Ayrton Senna has talked at length about the drivers' market.

"For once, I am not dictating it," he said. "There is no doubt that I am in a position to change teams and I have had talks with a number of people over the past 15 days, though nothing has been decided."

"I will make my decision much earlier than last year but it all hinges on Alain Prost. He is the joker in the pack this year."

This will not come as good news for McLaren who, by their standards, have had a disastrous year so far. Senna has intimated that money has become less important.

"What matters more nowadays is the technical package in a team," he said. If technical considerations are paramount, there is another man who is out of Formula One but who like Prost, is a proven winner.

John Barnard, the creator of the world championship-winning McLaren, who then went to Ferrari and to Benetton, has

recently been linked with a possible Toyota entry into Formula One.

But he has also had talks with both McLaren and Ferrari. If Barnard were involved in a team, then Senna would consider that team seriously.



Plugged in: Brundle prepares for his morning practice session at the Silverstone circuit yesterday

now been linked with a possible Toyota entry into Formula One.

But he has also had talks with both McLaren and Ferrari. If Barnard were involved in a team, then Senna would consider that team seriously.

Asked whether, in talks with

Ferrari, he had asked for Barnard to go there, too, as a condition of his joining the Italian team, Senna had a long pause. Then he said: "Barnard is a winner."

The final words of the day, though, belong to the on-track winner, Mansell: "I shall let the journalists describe my

lap," he said. "I am only the driver."

"This is a circuit where you have to give your all, total commitment. I can do something really special here at Silverstone. This is one of the most gruelling circuits in the world."

"I am aching all over but

now I have to think about the next qualifying session."

"I now have to do some more homework as it looks as if it is going to rain tomorrow."

Race review, page 34  
Practice times, page 34  
Hi-tech changes, page 35

## ANNOUNCING 'ELECT 17' A BREAKTHROUGH IN HEALTH INSURANCE

### That slashes premiums up to two thirds

WPA, one of Britain's largest health insurers, have introduced 'Elect 17', a first-ever policy that gives immediate treatment for the 17 medical conditions most claimed for on health insurance. They are also those conditions that have a direct effect on the quality of life and feature on NHS hospital waiting lists.

#### Why you should choose 'ELECT 17'

- Premiums up to two thirds less than those charged for other private health schemes.
- Immediate acceptance, no medical history.
- No age limit.
- Senior Elect for the over 60s who qualify for tax relief.

Whether you are contemplating private health insurance and are put off by the cost, or considering giving up the security of private health because of rising premiums, you should find out more about WPA's 'Elect 17' by sending off the coupon below or contacting your insurance broker or independent intermediary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Your daytime telephone number:

Marketing Department

Western Provident Association

FREEPOST BS 481

Bristol BS 1 6GT

Telephone: 0272 234634

The Innovators in Health Insurance

TM 117

**WPA**  
Health Insurance

## Williams joins Ipswich for a club record fee

IPSWICH Town have signed Geraint Williams from Derby County for £650,000 — a club record fee. Last season's second division champions have strengthened their midfield for the Premier League by signing the Welsh international, who has played 11 times for his country.

Williams, who has signed a four-year contract, said: "Not many players get the chance to move up a division at my age and it is nice to be going from one excellent manager, Arthur Cox, to another."

**Burning to make history**

When this newspaper lists the results of the qualifying rounds of the Open golf Championship, it is the custom to follow the name of the player with the name of his club. Pity the poor sub-editor the other night, who was confronted with the line "J Burns Jimmy Burns".

Following the ancient and proven maxim — if in doubt, leave it out — he did so. J Burns made the paper without mention of club. This brought the sternest rebuke imaginable: "A serious omission and a possible oversight of history in the making," read a letter, showing no ambition to make light of the matter. For Jimmy Burns was representing, yes, the Jimmy Burns Golf Club. The official programme lists him as JIMMY BURNS. Jimmy Burns. Jimmy doesn't belong to a club:

the club belongs to him. The club is based in Essex, but this week I am eschewing cheap jokes, especially on such a serious subject. JIMMY BURNS. Jimmy Burns, plays his next qualifying round at North Berwick tomorrow, and Inger Perkins, secretary and manager of the Jimmy Burns Golf Club, will no doubt be aghast for his Monday Times. History, as he so rightly says, is in the making.

**Ring of roses**

Readers of this space will recall Mike Morrison, the boxer with a record of 29 fights and one win. He was barred from boxing, appealing and took his case to the British Boxing Board of Control. Amazingly, he won. Even more amazingly, he then knocked out Steve Howden of Sheffield. "Most of my defeats were by the narrowest of margins, and a lot were home town decisions," he said. "This is the first chance I had to prepare properly, and now I'm looking for a Welsh title fight. It's no secret that I used to like a few drinks, but I never let anyone down in the ring."

## Overloaded managers earn £116,000

By JOHN GOODBODY

FIRST division football managers are paid an average basic salary of £116,600, plus bonuses, car expenses, free meals at work and business entertaining expenses, a survey revealed yesterday.

But there is a huge difference in managerial pay across the league: 84 per cent in the fourth division get less than £28,500 — many as little as £18,200 — and none are paid more than £32,000.

However, the report compiled by Stoy Hayward, a firm of Nottingham chartered ac-

countants for the League Managers' Association, also showed how demanding the job is: 40 per cent of first division managers do not take their full holiday entitlement and "there is little evidence that clubs are taking adequate steps to protect their managers' health."

The report added: "There should be a determined effort to ensure that all clubs pay for their managers to be given a detailed medical examination."

On average most managers watch two games a week to assess teams and individuals

## Up the pole

It is getting to the sort of time when one considers Olympic ideals: how the youth of the world meet in glorious harmony, safe from the evils of politics and nationalism — and then the winner prances about the track waving his national flag in everybody's

face.

The choreographed jingoistic lap of honour, run for the benefit of politicians and/or marketing men, and always featuring a bedspread-size flag flailed from a patriot in the crowd, is the most stomach-churning sight of the modern Olympic Games, and the competition for that accolade is pretty intense.

But I have cheering news.

Maureen Pieri, of the British Athletics Supporters Club (no cheap jokes about that title from me) has informed all members: "Flags for personal use must be of standard size, i.e. between 30 and 40cm long and 20 to 30cm wide with a soft plastic pole".

Bigger flags, she says, will be confiscated. Bad news for marketing men and politicians: that can only mean

with all-seater policy."

The government considered whether to allow second division clubs, with average attendances of less than 10,000, to retain their terraces. However, after six weeks of negotiations with the football authorities, Mellor decided that it would create difficulties if some clubs in the division were all-seater and some were not. Clubs who get promoted into the new premier and first divisions have three years to convert their stadiums.

Throughout the discussions the government has insisted that the safety of spectators must be the most important consideration after the disaster at Hillsborough when 95 people were crushed to death — it insists that terracing for the lower two divisions must, in any case, pass the safety regulations of the local authorities and the football licensing authority.

Tom Pendry, the Labour MP for Stalybridge and Hyde and chairman of the all-party parliamentary committee on football, welcomed the announcement, saying that it showed good sense.

The government is likely to confirm that it will continue allowing the reduction in the betting duty on football totalling £20 million a year to be used until 1999, for safety measures in the four divisions.

## Games doubts over last-placed Yates

MATTHEW Yates, the European indoor 1,500 metres champion, is struggling to meet his deadline to prove his fitness for the Olympic Games (David Powell writes).

In his return to international competition last night, following a four-week break due to illness, Yates finished eighth and last in a B-string 800 metres in the TSB grand prix at Crystal Palace.

Yates was a late inclusion in the field. His comeback had begun when he raced in Watford on Wednesday, winning a modest 1,500 metres in 3min 49.1sec. But last night Yates looked nowhere near the standard needed for the Olympics, which begin in three weeks' time, as he was to the rear of the field from start to finish. The race was won by

his fellow Briton, David Strang, in 1:46.54. Yates was three seconds down on what he needed, with 1:49.86.

Britain's selectors, who picked Yates for the Olympic team on condition that he proved his fitness before July 21, will not have been impressed by what they saw last night. Now Yates has little more than a week to show that he is worth taking to Barcelona.

Yates, Britain's only 1,500 metres finalist at the world championships last year, will now have to go chasing around Europe to find a race in which he can attempt to meet the selectors' standard. If he fails, then the reserve, Steve Crabb, of Enfield, will be brought in to join Kevin McKay and Peter Elliott.

## SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

□ If the gatekeepers at Lord's ever need a refresher course, a week's secondment to Spanish customs could do the trick. Ron Clarke, now 55, the former Olympic run-

ner, did a stint carrying the Olympic torch, and was allowed to keep his torch as a souvenir. The customs officers took one look at it, and confiscated the thing.

The choreographed jingoistic lap of honour, run for the benefit of politicians and/or marketing men, and always featuring a bedspread-size flag flailed from a patriot in the crowd, is the most stomach-churning sight of the modern Olympic Games, and the competition for that accolade is pretty intense.

But I have cheering news.

Maureen Pieri, of the British

Athletics Supporters Club (no cheap jokes about that title from me) has informed all members: "Flags for personal use must be of standard size, i.e. between 30 and 40cm long and 20 to 30cm wide with a soft plastic pole".

Bigger flags, she says, will be confiscated. Bad news for marketing men and politicians: that can only mean

salaries could have fallen over a four-year contract period by as much as 30 per cent in the extreme cases when annual salary is fixed for the whole term of the agreement."

Forty per cent of managers in the first division have agreed dismissal compensation packages in advance, but only eight per cent of the fourth division have such an accord.

The report concluded that 40 per cent of managers do not have fixed salary increases or protection from inflation built into their agreements. "This means the true value of

good news for the rest of the world.

**Short shrift**

After last weekend's historic all-bicycle shorts final at Wimbledon, I received at last an answer to my overwhelming question: why do they wear them?

"The second pair of shorts, underneath the originals, now termed 'Energy Shorts', are worn for functional rather than fashion reasons," I am told by Shaun Ambrose-Jones, of Penn-Nyla company, manufacturer of Active Sportsweat fabric. He says that two academic institutions have conducted research into

Energy Shorts, and "confirmed that the benefits are actual rather than purely psychological. Essentially these are:

1 Efficiency of muscles. In the tight fibres, temperatures can be regulated, actually delaying the point of exhaustion, and 2 Power: acceleration gain. Reaching a maximum quicker and maintaining it longer." You can't argue with facts like those. Any chance of getting a pair for my horse?



chrysco 150



# WEEKEND TIMES

SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

PASSPORT TO  
FRANCE  
PAGES 7, 10, 15



**T**he narrow lanes that meander across the country-side around the village of Hellidon, in Northamptonshire, do not seem to lead anywhere in particular. For the most part they follow ancient farm tracks, familiar enough to locals, but among which strangers easily lose their sense of direction and need to rely on infrequent and sometimes muddling signposts.

So it is all the more incongruous to be confronted with notices pointing the way to the Hellidon Lakes Golf Club and Hotel. Here, in archetypal rural England, one expects a gentle rolling vista of fields, hedges and spinneys: lakes and golf courses suggest an altogether different, more artificial, suburban landscape.

Yet Hellidon Lakes is only one of eight golf courses within the area administered by Daventry district council, with a population of slightly fewer than 65,000. In addition, although planning consent has been refused for three courses, it has been granted for six more. That in the view of many residents, is too many.

The issue has sharply divided local opinion, to the point where formerly friendly neighbours have become strangers, even enemies.

Those who argue that a landscape which has evolved over centuries is threatened by drastic change are accused of self-interest in seeking to block developments for which there is a ready market, and which could bring new jobs. "People who have been friends for years have suddenly stopped talking to each other," one villager comments.

The Sports Council has said that, nationally, it would like to see two courses for every 30,000 people (there are at present some 2,000 courses in Britain, and planning applications for a further 1,400 are in process). But its concern is with the provision of sports facilities for local people at affordable prices. It would welcome more cheap and simple courses where those who have never had a driver or a putter in their hands, particularly young people, can learn the rudiments without the expense and, in some cases, the discrimination attached to conventional club membership.

However, this concept is of little interest to developers. In most cases what they want to build are expensive complexes, top-class courses with luxury clubhouses and, if they can persuade the planning authorities, hotels and "leisure facilities" attached. If local people can afford the membership subscriptions, fair enough; but the market they are really aiming for is further afield.

Until now, the countryside east of Banbury, Oxfordshire, has remained curiously empty; not in the sense of being abandoned, but in having been largely spared the

pressure for new settlements. Only a few miles to the east lies the M1, Britain's first motorway, opened in the late 1950s to speed traffic between London and the Midlands and regarded at the time as one of the wonders of the age. Roughly the same distance to the west is the northern extension of the M40, constructed more than a generation later for precisely the same purpose. Between the two thundering arteries all still appears tranquil and serene.

Not entirely, however. The motorways may have protected the area from heavy through traffic, but they have also brought the northern and western suburbs of London, and much of the Midlands, within little more than an hour's drive. The completion of the M40, in particular, has caused house prices to increase dramatically, as commuters seek the good life in the pretty ironstone villages.

Those who argue that a landscape which has evolved over centuries is threatened by drastic change are accused of self-interest in seeking to block developments for which there is a ready market, and which could bring new jobs. "People who have been friends for years have suddenly stopped talking to each other," one villager comments.

The Sports Council has said that, nationally, it would like to see two courses for every 30,000 people (there are at present some 2,000 courses in Britain, and planning applications for a further 1,400 are in process). But its concern is with the provision of sports facilities for local people at affordable prices. It would welcome more cheap and simple courses where those who have never had a driver or a putter in their hands, particularly young people, can learn the rudiments without the expense and, in some cases, the discrimination attached to conventional club membership.

However, this concept is of little interest to developers. In most cases what they want to build are expensive complexes, top-class courses with luxury clubhouses and, if they can persuade the planning authorities, hotels and "leisure facilities" attached. If local people can afford the membership subscriptions, fair enough; but the market they are really aiming for is further afield.

Until now, the countryside east of Banbury, Oxfordshire, has remained curiously empty; not in the sense of being abandoned, but in having been largely spared the

duce less, and even not to produce anything at all.

However, the so-called set-aside programme, introduced in July 1988, under which farmers were offered annual cash payments to take land out of production, has not proved popular. Under the terms of the scheme, fields in which crops are no longer grown must be left fallow and may not be switched to other agricultural uses, such as grazing.

Nor may land designated as set-aside be used for housing or other building. There is, however, one important let-out, namely that such land may be used for sporting developments, for example, stud farms, livery stables, riding schools, playing fields and golf courses. The reasoning behind this is that, once under bricks and mortar, land must be regarded as permanently lost to agriculture, whereas, should we at some future date be faced with a food crisis, golf courses and the rest could be dug up, as they were during the second world war, and planted once more with crops.

The result has been a flood of applications from farmers all over the country, hoping that golf will provide the answer to all their financial worries. Many of these ambitions are no more than hopeless pipe dreams, because the land is visually unattractive, too remote, or without adequate access. Many farmers have no concept of the cost of the necessary earth moving and landscaping, and even less idea of how to finance the project.

Moreover, the decline in

## Farmers planning to turn unused land over to leisure face fierce opposition. John Young reports



farming's fortunes has been followed by the general economic recession, which has slowed the pace of applications. Nonetheless, there have been enough to alarm the CPRE, which reported recently that the percentage of set-aside land used for non-agricultural purposes had risen from 8 per cent to 17 per cent, far more than in any other European Community country. In a letter to the agriculture and environment commissioners in Brussels the council claimed this breached the principles of set-aside and was a misuse of public funds.

Is the council right to be concerned, or is it overreacting? Part of the answer may be found at Staverton, about three miles from Hellidon. Although it is a somewhat larger village and is within sight of the factories of Daventry, it has retained much of its charm and character. It is still very much a self-contained village, with a village atmosphere.

About ten years ago a local farmer and landowner, David Green, obtained permission to build a golf course. The Staverton

Park golf club, as it was christened, was generally welcomed as a sensible and well-planned development, with first-class facilities. Some voices were raised a few years later when a 50-bedroom hotel was added, but they were countered by others who argued that it provided jobs for local people.

But when Mr Green went on to submit proposals for two more golf courses and a new hotel, unease

again with a new application, this time for a single 18-hole golf course on a different part of his land, about three-quarters of a mile from the existing course and separated from it by a busy road. A second course was needed, he said, because at peak times the present course was overcrowded and, since priority was given to hotel guests when booking tee times, ordinary club members were complaining that they could not get a game. There would be no new hotel; only a small building with locker rooms and showers. A decision has yet to be made on this proposal, and its future was recently thrown into doubt when the hotel closed. Since then a number of other developments, particularly those with large hotels and extensive additional leisure facilities, have gone into liquidation.

Bill Craven, Daventry council's principal planning officer, makes it clear that, in principle, the council is opposed to further golf course developments. "In some cases we would encourage them, for instance in the urban fringe, but not in areas of high landscape value."

But how is high landscape value defined? Much of the countryside around Daventry is undeniably attractive; one of the highest areas of the East Midlands, it commands fine views. The famous pre-war

radio station, recently closed, was built outside the town to ensure clear reception and transmission, and near Hellidon there is a telecommunications tower.

But it is also possible to argue, as Mr Craven concedes, that golf courses provide a sort of green belt, a barrier against urban encroachment. A planning policy guidance note, issued by the environment department last September, states that golf courses can open up the countryside for recreation, but can also have a significant impact. They should be located and designed to

ensure harmony with the surrounding countryside, and to conserve the natural environment, it says.

Any significant associated developments, such as hotels, should be considered on their own merits.

But the district council is unable to prepare its own guidelines until its local plan has been approved by the government. Mr Craven hopes that the plan will go to public enquiry next year, but it will not be officially sanctioned before the end of 1993.

In the meantime, landowners can press ahead with applications to build more courses. The council does its best to discourage them in what it considers to be unsuitable areas, but often the applicants still go ahead, necessitating expensive and time-consuming appeals and enquiries.

A new factor is the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (Adas), formerly the technical branch of the agriculture ministry, established to provide free advice to farmers on matters such as pest control, soil fertility and the welfare of livestock. Since April 1 this year it has been an independent agency, which, for a fee, is happy to suggest new uses for set-aside land and to help with planning applications.

**M**eanwhile, at remote Hellidon, with its ironstone cottages, stone walls, narrow lanes, no main roads, and wonderful views across the Vale of Shuckburgh, Stuart Nicoll, the owner of the Hellidon Lakes complex, is pressing ahead with an application for a nine-hole extension. Critics say the present golf course was badly designed on terrain that was too steep, and that the hotel and clubhouse, built of brick with a slate roof, are out of keeping with the local vernacular architecture and uncomfortably visible from some distance away.

Mr Nicoll says that people are frightened of change. "They don't want any kind of development at all," he adds.

"We have been open for 18 months, and I think in that time a lot of fears have disappeared. There were worries about traffic, but golfers don't arrive all at once; they arrive just before their starting time. A lot of people who live in the countryside and are not golfers don't realise that. They have visions of big spectator events such as football matches or race meetings, with long queues of cars. But an ordinary golf course isn't like that. We need the extra holes to avoid congestion on the first tee."

"We have planted 27,000 new trees and built 13 lakes, and we have managed to avoid chopping down any mature trees at all. The Nature Conservancy Council wrote to us to say that we had actually enhanced the local wildlife."

## Sotheby's sells Rembrandt for £4 million

Over the past 10 years only four major Rembrandts have been offered for sale at auction.

Two were consigned for sale through Sotheby's – and sold.

Two were not – and didn't.

For enquiries about Old Master Paintings, please call Julien Stock on 071-408 5413.

**SOTHEBY'S**  
FOUNDED 1744

## FILM

**BATMAN RETURNS** (12): Quirky but ho-hum sequel, best when the spotlight falls on Michelle Pfeiffer's electrifying Catwoman. With Michael Keaton, Danny DeVito; director, Tim Burton. *Camden Parkway* (071-267 7034) *Empire* (071-407 9999) *MGM Baker Street* (071-935 9772) *MGM Fulham Road* (071-378 2636) *MGM Oxford Street* (071-636 0310) *MGM Trocadero* (071-434 0031) *Notting Hill Coronet* (071-727 6705) *Screen on the Green* (071-226 3520) *UCI Whiteleys* (071-92 3332).



Michelle Pfeiffer: purr-fect star of *Batman Returns*

**THE BEST INTENTIONS** (12): Ingmar Bergman's fascinating tale of his parents' turbulent courtship and marriage. Dual direction by Bill August; excellent performances (Pernilla August, Samuel勒Fler, Gute) (071-407 4043) *Luumiere* (071-836 0691).

**BIG WEDNESDAY** (PG): Unwanted revival of John Milius's portentous 1978 hymn to surfing. Jan-Michael Vincent, William Katt, Gary Busey. *Prince Charles* (071-437 8181).

**THE BUTCHER'S WIFE** (12): Arch whimsy about a New York butcher's clairvoyant wife (Demi Moore), partly salvaged by bright lines and a genial cast. Jeff Daniels, Mary Steenburgen. *Director*, Terry Hughes. *MGM Fulham Road* (071-370 2636) *MGM Tottenham Court Road* (071-434 0031).

**CASABLANCA** (U): The 50th anniversary release of the cult favourite, brilliantly written, awash with exotic atmosphere. Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains; director, Michael Curtiz. *Plaza* (071-497 9999).

**HOWARDS END** (PG): Absorbing version of E.M. Forster's novel about two colliding families with different ideals. With Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson, Helena Bonham-Carter. *Director*, James Ivory. *Curzon Mayfair* (071-465 8865).

**THE LONG DAY CLOSES** (12): Terence Davies's powerful evocation of childhood's lost paradise. With Leigh McCormack, Marjorie Yates, and a wonderful aural collage of Fifties Britain. *Curzon Phoenix* (071-240 9651) *Curzon West End* (071-439 4805) *Screen on Baker Street* (071-935 2772).

**THE LOVER** (18): Jean-Jacques Annaud's over-careful, faithfully erotic adaptation of Marguerite Duras's autobiographical novella about an adolescent girl's discovery of sex and love in Twenties colonial Indo-China. *MGM Fulham Road* (071-370 2636) *MGM Haymarket* (071-839 1527) *MGM Shaftesbury Avenue* (071-836 6279/379 7025) *MGM Trocadero* (071-434 0031) *UCI Whiteleys* (071-792 3322).

**PEPI, LUCI, BOM . . .**: Outrageous adventures of three Madrid women. Amusing if dishevelled jape from Pedro Almodóvar, completed in 1980. Carmen Maura. *Metro* (071-437 0757).

**THE PLAYBOYS** (12): Love and jealousy in an Irish village in 1957. Strong performances (Albert Finney, Robin Wright, Aidan Quinn), but too much blame. *Director*, Gillies MacKinnon. *Camden Parkway* (071-267 7034) *MGM Chelsea* (071-352).

5095) *MGM Haymarket* (071-839 1527) *Odeon Kensington* (0426 914665).

**THE PLAYER** (15): Dazzling satire on Hollywood, directed by Robert Altman from Michael Tolkin's novel. Tim Robbins as the studio executive who kills a writer; plus cameos and walk-ons galore. *MGM Chelsea* (071-352 5096) *Odcons: Kensington* (0426 914665) *Leicester Square* (0426 915683) *Screen on the Hill* (071-435 3366) *UCI Whiteleys* (071-792 3322).

**THE RAPTURE** (18): Disaffected woman (Mimi Rogers, excellent) becomes Born Again. Proprietary exploration of spiritual malaise, written and directed by Michael Tolkin.

*MGM Fulham Road* (071-370 2636) *MGM Paxton Street* (071-930 0631) *MGM Tottenham Court Road* (071-636 5148).

**SLEEPWALKERS** (18): Absurd, bungled horror movie written by Stephen King. Brian Krause as a reptilian in hunk's clothing; Mädchen Amick as the imperilled girl. *Director*, Michael Garris.

**MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) *Odcons: Kensington* (0426 914665) *Martle Arch* (0426 914501) *West End* (0426 915574) *UCI Whiteleys* (071-792 3322).

**STEPKIDS** (PG): Painful comedy with step-parents and step-children, but no good jokes. With Hilary Wolf, Griff Rhys Jones, *Director*, Joan Micklin Silver.

**MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) *MGM Tottenham Court Road* (071-636 6148) *Odcon Mezzanine* (0426 915683).

**VAN GOH** (12): Maurice Pialat's masterly, no-nonsense portrait of the painter's last months. Fine performance from singer-turned-actor Jacques Dutronc.

*Mimosa* (071-235 4225) *Renoir* (071-837 8402).

## THEATRE

## LONDON

**ANGELS IN AMERICA**: Thrilling performances in Tony Kushner's fascinating state-of-the-Union drama on AIDS, religion, politics, everything. *National (Cottesloe)*, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Wed, 7.15pm, mat Wed, 1.30pm.

**SCHIPPER, THE PLUMBER**: C.P. Taylor's warm-hearted version of Steinbeck's satire on snobbery among music lovers. Merry performances.

*Greenwich, Crooms Hill*, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

**SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION**: Stockard Channing recreates her role as the rich New Yorker transfigured by a black con artist in John Guare's fine play on human inter-dependence. *Royal Court, Sloane Square*, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 2.30pm.

**A SLIP OF THE TONGUE**: A wolfish John Malkovich in a lightweight drama that seems to equate East-European decadence with getting girls into bed. *Shakespeare, Shaftesbury Avenue*, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, 6pm and 9pm, Sat, 4.30pm and 8.30pm.

**LE BOURGEOIS GENTILHOMME**: Richard Jones's 50-50 production, with Timothy Spall as a boorish hero. Fine visuals, fruitful comedy. *National (Lyttelton)*, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Wed-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm.

**DEATH AND THE MAIDEN**: Ariel Dorfman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge: Geraldine James, Michael Byrne and Paul Freeman.

**Duke of York's** St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-838 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

**DELIAVU**: Jimmy Porter 36 years on. Osborne's hero and whinges but in a vacuum, and Peter Egan seems too good-natured to be the Angry Old Man. *Comedy, Pantin Street*, SW1

**A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE**: Phyllida Lloyd's stylish RSC production, in London after a triumphant tour. Callous aristocrat, wronged woman: melodrama laced with Wilde's wit. With Carol Royle and, pictured above left, Barbara Leigh-Hunt and Mary Chater. *Theatre Royal, Haymarket*, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

**STRAIGHT AND NARROW**: Nicholas Lyndhurst, Neil Dalglish and Carmel McSharry in a likeable comedy about a domineering mother's worryingly gay son. *Albany*, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

**ROXETTE**: More Abba-esque than Erasure's Abba-esque, this Swedish rock band found fame abroad after an American student brought back one of their albums and asked his radio station to play it. Now phenomenally successful, they are performing at selected arenas this summer.

**ROYAL BALLET**: If a night of light entertainment is what you are after head for Covent Garden where *La Fille mal gardee* is always a delight. Ashton's bucolic love story offers tenderness as well as laughs and features one of the finest character roles in all ballet: Alain, the ridiculous progeny of the local gentry. There is also the famous Clog Dance, and no one does it better than David Blair, who takes the role of Widow Simone, the pantomime dame. *Royal Opera House, Covent Garden*, London WC2 (071-240 1066), Tues, 7.30pm.

**ILLINOIS JACQUET BIG BAND**: The Lousiana-born tenor sax player effortlessly combines blues feeling with a big band sound. He makes a rare appearance here as part of the Birmingham Jazz Festival.

**PROMS 92**: Andrew Davis conducts this year's opening concert, bringing together the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Singers and the London Symphony Chorus for a performance of Verdi's massive Requiem. The soloists are Mariana Lopise, Vernon Cole, Paul Plisha and the young American soprano Susan Dunn, all of whom are making their Prom debuts. *Albert Hall, London SW1* (071-240 1066), Fri, 7.30pm.

**CARL FLESH COMPETITION**: Spread over two evenings (three selects on each), part two of the final stage of the Carl Fleisch International Violin Competition offers talent spotters a chance to hear each of the six finalists playing a concerto chosen from those by Bartok (No 2), Beethoven, Brahms, Dvorak, Mendelssohn, Sibelius, Tchaikovsky and Walton. Andrew Litton conducts the Philharmonia.

**BARBican**, Silk Street, London EC1 (071-638 8291), Wed, Thurs, 6.30pm.

**OPERA**

**BUXTON FESTIVAL**: Buxton is well worth visiting at any time, but the ever-enterprising festival, which specialises in operatic rarities of the 18th and 19th centuries, performed in Frank Matcham's delightful Edwardian opera house, provides an ideal excuse. This year's operas are Handel's *Ariodante*, produced by Adnan Slack and directed from the harpsichord by Roger Vignoles (Opera House, Wed, 7.45pm, further performances next week), and Rossini's *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, conducted by Jane Glover and with a cast that includes Jean Rigby and Justin Lavender (opers next Sat). The festival also offers a strong programme of non-operatic events, with recitals by Ian Partridge, Benjamin Luu and Sarah Walker and concerts by the Lindsay String Quartet (Fri, St John's, 7.30pm) and the London Mozart Players Festival Box Office, Buxton Opera House, Water Street, Buxton (0289 72190), until August 2.

**ALMEEIDA OPERA**: The festival draws to a close with the world premiere of *False Love/True*

(071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

**THE DYBBUK**: Julia Pascal's ground-breaking new version of the famous Yiddish drama, transposed to a ghetto in 1942. *New End*, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (071-974 0022). Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, mats Sun, 4pm. Final week.

**FROM A JACK TO A KING**: Witty and stylish version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in the world of rock bands and packed with Status quo, Arctic Monkeys, West Street.

*WC2* (071-836 6111). Previews from Thurs, 8.15pm; opens July 20, 7.30pm; then Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm.

**GRAND HOTEL**: New York hit musical based on the 1930s film and Vicki Baum's novel. Glitter and glamour in a doomed world. *Dominion, Tottenham Court Road*, W1 (071-580 9562). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm.

**GUYS AND DOLLS**: The Young Vic's Youth Theatre present the well-known musical. The two co-directors won praise for their recent *In the Midnight Hour* and *The Show*.

*West Vic*, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Previews from Mon, 7.30pm; opens Thurs, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, Sat, 2.30pm.

**THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III**: Nigel Havers' very fine as the son-in-law to Alan Bennett's intriguing but slightly puzzling play. *National (Lyttelton)*, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, Mon, Tues, 7.30pm, mats today, Tues, 2.15pm.

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Ian Falterman's jolly production, full of rough and tumble and overgrown. *Dinsdale Landen* plays Bottom. *Open Air, Regent's Park*, NW1 (071-836 2431). Tonight, Mon-Wed, 8pm, mats today, Wed, 2.30pm.

**AN OEDIPUS**: The King's masterly, no-nonsense portrait of the painter's last months. Fine performance from singer-turned-actor Jacques Dutronc.

*Mimosa* (071-235 4225) *Renoir* (071-837 8402).



Deadly game: Lisa Pavane and Greg Horsman in the Australian Ballet's *Checkmate*

## MUSIC

## CLASSICAL

**CHELTENHAM**: The second week of the festival includes *Opera North*'s production of Robert Saxton's *Caritas* (Everyman Theatre, tonight, 7.30pm); a recital with works by Bach, Britten, Saxton, Taverner and Macomber, given by cellist Steven Isserlis (Pittville Pump Room, tomorrow, 7.30pm), who also gives two masterclasses (Pittville Pump Room, today and tomorrow, 2.30pm); concerts by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (Town Hall, Mon, 8pm — programme includes works by Tippett, Bartok and Poul Ruders) and the Hanover Band (Town Hall, Tues, 8pm — *Missa Solemnis*). The Chilingirian Quartet perform Haydn and Bartok throughout the week (Pittville Pump Room, 11am, then Mon, Wed, Fri, 2pm — Wednesday's concert includes the premiere of John Taverner's second quartet, *The Last Sleep of the Virgin*).

**CHILDE RAVEN**: The Chillingirian International Festival of Music, Box Office, Town Hall, Impen Square, Cheltenham (0242 523690).

**ERASER**: The boys who brought us *Blue Savannah* and *Oh* *Sometimes* are currently topping the charts with their Abba-esque EP. They bring their mix of electronic pop and dirty showbiz to the capital for a 15-date stint.

**HAMMERMUTH**: *Almeida*, London W6 (081-748 4081), today, tomorrow, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 6.45pm.

**HILTON RUIZ**: A New Yorker, Ruiz is over with his quintet to provide some sweet Latin jazz grooves including soulful interpretations of the work of John Coltrane. *Ronnie Scott's*, London W1 (071-439 0747), Mon-Fri, 8.30pm.

**ROCK**

**JAMES BROWN**: No new music is forthcoming since last year's *Over Due* album, but Soul Brother Number One has a monumental back catalogue to draw upon and can still kindle some of his old magic. He appears here as part of a weekend's entertainment featuring glorious oldtimer, Gary Glitter, tomorrow (2pm for 7pm start).

**Lea Valley Park Showground**, Waltham Abbey (071-379 1066), today, 4pm for 7pm start.

**ROXETTE**: More Abba-esque than Erasure's Abba-esque, this Swedish rock band found fame abroad after an American student brought back one of their albums and asked his radio station to play it. Now phenomenally successful, they are performing at selected arenas this summer.

**ROYAL BALLET**: If a night of light entertainment is what you are after head for Covent Garden where *La Fille mal gardee* is always a delight. Ashton's bucolic love story offers tenderness as well as laughs and features one of the finest character roles in all ballet: Alain, the ridiculous progeny of the local gentry. There is also the famous Clog Dance, and no one does it better than David Blair, who takes the role of Widow Simone, the pantomime dame. *Royal Opera House, Covent Garden*, London WC2 (071-240 1066), Tues, 7.30pm.

**ROYAL BALLET**: If a night of light entertainment is what you are after head for Covent Garden where *La Fille mal gardee* is always a delight. Ashton's bucolic love story offers tenderness as well as laughs and features one of the finest character roles in all ballet: Alain, the ridiculous progeny of the local gentry. There is also the famous Clog Dance, and no one does it better than David Blair, who takes the role of Widow Simone, the pantomime dame. *Royal Opera House, Covent Garden*, London WC2 (071-240

# Sex, sand and so what?

Lynne Truss gives the thumbs-down to the early episodes of the BBC's *Eldorado* soap — while fearing she may be hooked

I CONDUCTED a straw poll on Monday night. It was such a rare opportunity that I felt I should not waste it. A group of assorted media folk was celebrating the publication of a friend's book on the very night that BBC1's new soap, *Eldorado*, had finally landed in our living-rooms with a faint *olé*, a wet bikini top, and a little heap of sand.

"Hey guys," I said, "anyone watch *Eldorado* this evening?" and I sat back with an expectant smile, a notebook balanced on my knee. But nobody moved; and it all went quiet. Then, luckily, someone mentioned *Coronation Street* (some nonsense about a foot being amputated) and everyone got really animated again. So that was it. I mention it because my straw poll turned out to be eerily similar to the official ratings figures, t.e.

*Eldorado* — 1.1 (ne)

*Coronation Street*.... 14.5 million. The funny thing was that I actually felt lonely watching *Eldorado*. You remember those old *Wednesday Play* scripts set in television studios, where the actors had been accidentally locked in after hours and were suffering existential doubt against white walls, because they were sort of "on telly" but quintessentially "not on telly" at the same time? Well, *Eldorado* was a bit like that — a golden dream that was also a nightmare of the mundane, all played out against an unreal background with nobody watching.

Perhaps it was something to do with the absence of bright sunshine the deeply un-blue quality of the sky was unsettling. Perhaps it was the dreadful, shameful, virtually untransmittable sound quality. Or the woodiness of some of the acting, which was sometimes so awful that you actually wanted to shout "Trees died for this?". The only thought brightening the horizon was that all those newspaper stories about the millions spent on *Eldorado*'s production values had clearly been a cruel tease on the part of the BBC.

Everyone knows that you cannot judge a soap opera from its first few episodes. But on the other hand, the role of judge (with a bit of black cloth on your head) is practically

## TV REVIEW

the only role open to you. It is great fun, you say. "Nah, yuk, phooey" and spit on the floor. Six months later, contempt can turn into familiarity, but when a soap opera is new you do not know who anybody is, so you cannot have fun (for example) noticing that Sharon has somehow acquired a fantastic tan overnight without ever apparently leaving the doors of *Eldorado*. Perhaps that is the "move to Spain and open a little bar" fantasy — which, as anybody who saw Channel 4's two-part *Coast of Dreams* in February will know, entails working 18 hours a day, with the wife stuck in a windowless kitchen turning out roast-beef-and-Yorkshire in temperatures of 120 degrees.

But in *Eldorado*, everyone seems to be on perpetual holiday. Joy's Bar is of course run by somebody called Joy, but she is not the boil-in-the-kitchen type, and she evidently has time for a massage each morning (two massage scenes in one week, anyway). There is a restaurant run by a big Midlander called Bunny (whose return from England with a puppet-like child wife was the main story-line this week), but the job seems less strenuous — just offering people free liqueurs and peering across tables at his new bride with a wistful, caring expression.

Hum. Perhaps I am hooked. Already I want to know the answers to all sorts of burning questions. For example, will the youngsters (particularly the foreign ones) learn to open their mouths when speaking, or will the scriptwriters just

## World in Action

(Monday, ITV, 8.30pm)  
The journalistic wheeze of joining a New Age travellers' convoy was OK a few weeks ago, when *The Times Saturday Review* did it. But given the number of pieces written since I cannot but worry that when *World in Action* does a similar job, asking "Are the travellers idealists or work-shy scroungers?", the answer may be that most are undercover journalists, with wigs and rub-off tattoos.

• Marilyn Monroe: Say Goodbye to the President (Tuesday, BBC1, 10.20pm)  
The theory goes something like this: 30 years ago, on the after-

noon of Marilyn's ostensibly lonely suicide, Robert Kennedy was hustled out of the back door, pausing only to collect any tell-tale traces of himself (R&B-monogrammed pyjamas, Attorney-General alarm clock and toothbrush); he was then spirited out of Los Angeles by his brother-in-law, Peter Lawford; meanwhile, Marilyn's romantic ties with the Kennedy brothers were air-brushed out of history before she reached the mortuary.

This documentary, first shown in 1985, radiates so much raw flaming scandal — sex, death, Kennedy's organised crime, official cover-up — that it is like a

## TV REVIEW

solar eclipse: you can really only look at it through thick, tinted bottle-glass, for a few seconds at a time.

The main thrust of the film is the involvement of the Mafia. I keep thinking of the old hit-song "Bobby's Girl" ("I wanna be boom-boom Bobby's girl"). It will never seem the same again.

• A Question of Attribution (Friday, BBC2, 9.10pm)  
The Alan Bennett season, which starts tomorrow at 8.10pm with *A Day Out*, gets underway at last. For his fans, the wait has been unbearable, and we do wonder why we cannot have more of the

wonderful mid-1980s Kafka film *The Insurance Man* would have been nice.

Anyway, here we have Anthony Blunt (doing an excellent vocal impression of the art critic Brian Sewell) and Prunella Scales as HRH, in Bennett's clever art-history metaphor stuff about fakes and spies.

The only little thing likely to mar the pleasure is one's reluctant familiarity with the oft-repeated trailers. Thus when the Queen refers to her recent "all walks of life luncheon" as "a bit sticky", the nation's viewers will weary of it.

L.T.

El Dorado, of course, such behaviour is unexceptional.

And when will Marcus Tandy

(smooth, mean, mark-of-the-devil sunglasses) do something despicable? His only crime thus far has been to chuck out his pregnant girlfriend and describe her as a slut — but in a sexist place like the Costa

peared, buttoning her skirt, and not wearing tights. That is class for you. If the same scene were in *Eldorado*, Grant would just wave his Union-Jack boxer shorts out of the window and shout: "Do you mind? We're trying to have a bonk up here."

*Eldorado* means "the gilded", you know. As a metaphor it is jolly dangerous. All that glitters is not necessarily the genuine article. These people are supposedly looking for a mythical place of sun, sand, and anything else beginning with "s", where outdoor shots invariably begin with the young tanned body of a non-speaking extra moving awkwardly from left to right. But in its first week *Eldorado* did not glow very much.

What it most resembled, in fact, was the uncooked dinner Gwen Lockhead served up to her lazy husband Drew after he had hilariously neglected to put the chicken in the oven. A lump of white-pink uncooked poultry, a mound of frozen corn, and a pile of raw potatoes — the sort of thing that makes your tum go giddy just looking at it. Less of the *el Dorado*, then: more Montezuma's revenge.

Record review: Rock bands The House of Love, Phish and The Mission; Placido Domingo and Tosca; and jazzman Gerry Mulligan

## Hazy, lazy House of Love

**T**he House of Love find themselves caught in an awkward limbo. With their fashionable cachet fading into the distance, but their commercial profile still some way short of "stardom", they badly need to put out an album which will establish them as something more than second division mainstays.

Their latest (and fourth) album, *Babe Rainbow* (Fontana 512 549-2), is another fine collection of songs, hazily steeped in the spirit of the 1960s.

Guy Chadwick's singing has something of the lazy fluency of David Gower's batwing technique about it; he sounds so casual at times that it seems as if he is not really trying.

His songwriting style is equally unhurried and elegant, and the album abounds with drifting, dreamy choruses and gorgeous guitar textures that deftly mix the twang with the twinkling. What it lacks is any real sense of

urgency or bite, and this may hinder its progress.

For something a good deal less restrained and even more 1960s-retro try *A Picture of Nectar* (Eelskin 7559-61274-2), the second album by Phish.

This four-piece group from Vermont is the standard-bearer of a "new" American movement dedicated to reviving and updating the working practices of bands such as The Grateful Dead. Thus the group tours constantly, performing long shows incorporating much off-the-wall improvisation, and has attracted a following of fans so devoted to the cause that they have established a computer network, called Phishnet, to keep in touch with each other.

The album is a suitably bizarre agglomeration of styles: rock, funk, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

sounds, such rampant and eccentric inventiveness gets a little wearing on the ear, and the evidence here suggests that live performance may indeed be their forte.

The Mission's new album,

such as rock, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

such as rock, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

such as rock, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

such as rock, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

such as rock, reggae, jazz, country, all woven through with a rather laboured line in comic tomfoolery. Although an intriguing fusion of

## Mulligan recycled

**J**azz has never been all that good at caring for its heritage. There has been an assumption that any creative musician worth his salt would be too busy inventing dazzling new forms to take on the dusty role of curator.

Attitudes have begun to change, partly no doubt because of the feeling that there may not be many barriers left to be broken.

Gerry Mulligan's *Birth of the Cool* (GRP Records GRP-96792) is an intriguing example of what can be gained from recycling the past — in this case the stylish nonet recordings Mulligan made with Miles Davis in 1949-50.

At first it seems a doomed idea. The original *Birth of the Cool* sessions are so perfectly proportioned that any attempt to tamper with them ought to be like daubing undercoat on a much-loved painting. Mulligan retains the same unorthodox instrumentation — French horn and tuba mingling with the front line of trumpet, trombone, alto and baritone

saxophone — but has made special alterations to the internal structure of the pieces and the order of the solos.

Davis himself had hinted that he was interested in taking part, but died shortly before the recording session. His place is taken by Wallace Roney, who is a much more assured technician than the Miles of 40 years ago. While Roney is sometimes over-decorative, he generally keeps to the spirit of the original.

With Lee Konitz otherwise engaged, the alto chair is taken by arch-bebopper Phil Woods. A curious choice, as his fierce, hyperventilating runs are in disarming contrast to Konitz's studied elegance. Yet on the whole it works.

Mulligan, a peerless baritone player, will perform the arrangements in London next Saturday at the JVC/Capital "Radio Jazz Parade".

CLIVE DAVIS

## Sinopoli's lingering Tosca

**T**he imprint of the conductor Giuseppe Sinopoli presses deep into Deutsche Grammophon's new *Tosca* (431 775-2, two CDs). Sinopoli knows all about Puccini, as recordings of *Manon Lescaut* and *Butterfly* testify, and he has never been averse to savouring a little *fin de siècle* decadence — witness his performances of Strauss's *Salomé* on stage and on disc.

*Tosca* in Sinopoli's hands is, at first impression, unbridled melodrama. The escaped pris-

oner Angelotti (the excellent Bryn Terfel) enters dragging, running scared. Crashing chords announce the arrival of Baron Scarpia. There is an almost sadistic lingering over the torture of Cavaradossi. Yet just when *Tosca* seems set for the title of Puccini's most violent score, Sinopoli draws from the Philharmonia exquisitely limpid playing.

This happens particularly at the start of Act III, from the Prelude through Cavaradossi's sensuous memories of *Tosca*. The tempi here, as in some other parts of the opera, are exceedingly slow. But Sinopoli's invitation to linger is irresistible.

Plácido Domingo's Cavaradossi is at his best in this final act. It is the part he has sung

more often than any other on stage and it is coming up to 20 years since he first recorded it, with Leontyne Price in the title role and Mehta conducting. Domingo maintains the revolutionary fervour he put into that early Cavaradossi, and subsequent ones, on disc. On DG there are touches of dryness in the voice, notably in Act I, but when he takes *Tosca* into his arms again in Act III no tenors can rival him.

Samuel Ramey has come quite recently to Scarpia, but it is an interpretation full of authority, as he showed at Covent Garden two seasons back. There is a silken sheen to the tones as he drags the poison of jealousy into *Tosca's* mind in the church of Sant' Andrea, followed by snarling triumph when he believes he has her within his grasp.

Mirella Freni all too credibly eludes that grasp, just as she misses the vulnerable side

of *Tosca's* nature. Over the years Freni has been one of the supreme interpreters of Puccini's heroines, but this *Tosca* has come too late. The tone is now too full and there are hints of vibrato in the voice. She no longer manages to sound flirtatious when dallying images of a tiny love-nest before Cavaradossi: this *Tosca* would not grace anything less than a chateau.

The disappointing central performance upsets a *Tosca* otherwise admirably cast and recorded. First choice remains the de Sabata version with Callas on EMI, now just a year short of its fortieth birthday.

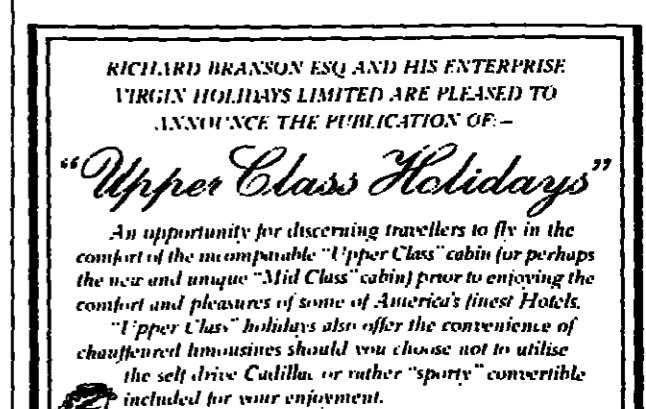
JOHN HIGGINS

• Domingo sings Cavaradossi in today's live transmission (shared by the BBC and Channel 4) of *Tosca* from Rome, using the buildings and times of day specified by Puccini. Act I is at 11am on BBL2.



GUILTY SECRETS: GERALDINE McEWAN

"I AM ADDICTED TO *THUNDERBIRDS*. I LOVED WATCHING IT WHEN MY CHILDREN WERE SMALL AND AM STILL FASCINATED BY IT. THERE HAS JUST BEEN A RE-RUN AND I HAD AN EXCUSE TO WATCH IT WITH MY FOUR-YEAR-OLD GRANDSON, WHO ADORES IT. MY FAVOURITE CHARACTERS ARE LADY PELENOPE AND BRAINS. *ROSEANNE* IS MY PASSION: IT'S VERY FUNNY. I LOVE WOMEN WHO ARE NOT SCARED TO GO TOO FAR, LIKE FRENCH AND SAUNDERS, WHOSE ANARCHIC HUMOUR IS EXECUTED WITH SUBTLETY AND OBSERVATION. THEY ARE BRILLIANT ACTRESSES. I LOVE IT WHEN THEY PLAY THOSE MEN WITH GREAT BEER GUTS. THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL WOMEN AND YET THEY CAN MAKE THEMSELVES LOOK SO AWFUL."



RICHARD BRANSON ESQ AND HIS ENTERPRISE VIRGIN HOLIDAYS LIMITED ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE PUBLICATION OF -

"Upper Class Holidays" An opportunity for discerning travellers to fly in the comfort of the incomparable "Upper Class" cabin (or perhaps the new and unique "Mid Class" cabin) prior to enjoying the comfort and pleasures of some of America's finest Hotels. "Upper Class" holidays also offer the convenience of chauffeur limousines should you choose not to utilise the self-drive Cadillac or rather "sporty" convertible included for your enjoyment. By special arrangement with Richard Branson you may also choose to have exclusive use of his private West Indian Island. Altogether some delightful ideas in a delightful brochure. Alternatively you may care to telephone 0293 544889.

CLASSICS & CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE 11 July to 1 August SCP Limited 105-109 Curzon Rd London EC2 071 733 1888



In the shade: Snowy (Patch Connolly), Trish (Polly Perkins) and Marcus Tandy (Jesse Bassdall) trying to fulfil the hype for *Eldorado*

2  
992  
S  
anchester  
00.  
is a city  
with Chin  
possibilit  
or anoth  
1 left by  
ring, bur  
erning, se  
des."  
away fr  
Wales, a  
t the reg  
tractions  
brighton,  
artin, Ma  
etlands.  
Pilkinc  
St. Helens  
and Crox  
which al  
etters a  
00.  
Eldorad  
and not  
for you.  
If the sa  
El Dorad  
Grant w  
his Uni  
the wind  
up or d  
up he  
is jolly  
dangerous.  
All that  
not necess  
the genui  
These p  
supposed  
looking f  
for a my  
sand, and  
anything  
beginning  
with "s",  
invariably  
begin w  
young tann  
body of a  
extra mov  
from lef  
to right.  
But in i  
first we  
El Dorad  
did not  
glow ver  
much.  
What it  
most res  
was the  
uncooked  
poultry, a  
mound o  
frozen co  
potatoe  
times yu  
Recently  
Eldorad  
and Gr  
after the  
lunchtime  
were the  
interrupt  
banging a  
door. Sh  
then: mor  
Montezu  
revenge.  
folklore  
lies  
ter.  
JAZZ  
Miles Davis  
saxophone — but has made  
special alterations to the  
internal structure of the pieces  
and the order of the solos.  
Davis himself had hinted  
that he was interested in  
taking part, but died shortly  
before the recording session.  
His place is taken by Wallace  
Roney, who is a much more  
assured technician than the  
Miles of 40 years ago. While  
Roney is sometimes over-decorative,  
he generally keeps to  
the spirit of the original.  
With Lee Konitz otherwise  
engaged, the alto chair is  
taken by arch-bebopper Phil  
Woods. A curious choice,  
as his fierce, hyperventilating  
runs are in disarming contrast  
to Konitz's studied elegance.  
Yet on the whole it works.  
Mulligan, a peerless  
baritone player, will perform  
the arrangements in London next  
Saturday at the JVC/Capital  
"Radio Jazz Parade".  
CLIVE DAVIS



# Dancing to the rhythm of devotion

**M**usic embodies a great paradox. Many of its most prominent practitioners were and are, notoriously hard-nosed and commercially-minded operators. Yet a remarkable proportion of the world's great music has grown out of what might be called other-worldly matters. From Bach and Stockhausen to Bob Marley, John Coltrane and Aretha Franklin, spiritual faith of one kind or another has been a stimulus every bit as important as the more tangible forces such as ambition, artistic innovation and commercial drive.

The touring and festival circuits now bring us a plethora of devotional musical forms, many of them from ancient or even dying traditions of worship. Even so, this month is special: it sees the WOMAD festival in Reading, the Caribbean Music Village at Waltham Abbey and an extensive festival entitled Spirit of the Earth, to be held in Birmingham and London. No shortage of spiritual options for lost souls there.

Spirit of the Earth defines its aims with an Italian proverb of the early 17th century. 'Whom God loves not that man loves not music.' That was obviously coined before God had heard heavy metal. Yet the sentiment rings true. At its best, music is fluid and expressive enough to communicate even the essence of religions whose ritual verbal rubrics seem forbidding or incomprehensible.

Music can even make palatable beliefs which, if presented to audiences as a printed manifesto, might cause a riot. One of the most popular performers at WOMAD

**David Toop on three festivals that offer Westerners a chance to hear the spiritual music of other cultures**

festivals over the last seven years has been the Pakistani singer of Sufi mystical songs, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. The tenets of his sacred art exclude women to the extent that only men are allowed on the stage during a recital. Given that a WOMAD audience is liberal and broadly sympathetic, feminist aims, the ecstatic reception with which Khan's intense Muslim devotion is greeted can be puzzling. In this case, however, the songs express religious beliefs in a language which the audience cannot understand. The music is free to act upon its listeners with generalised, emotional force.

The African-American gospel tradition is similarly renowned for singers who can induce feelings of overwhelming intensity in Christians and unbelievers alike. Understanding the message can create some awkward moments for those who are just there for the beauty of the singing.

At WOMAD's recent Morecambe Bay festival, the old-fashioned gospel shouting of the Five Blind Boys of Alabama was rapturously received. Just in front of the stage, a woman was dancing with a beer can in her hand, her merriment

obviously owing as much to the contents of the can as the content of the songs. When the group's leader, Clarence Fountain, delivered a short sermon which urgently recommended that all the world's alcohol should be poured down the sink, the woman's mood turned. She stormed off through the crowd, her own personal ecstasy shattered by the stern edicts of born-again Christianity.

Belonging to a society of many and sometimes half-heard faiths, mostly co-existing in relative tolerance and mutual ignorance, can we hope to make sense of the contrasting religions that flash by during a supermarket of a festival such as Spirit of the Earth?

One important function of such festivals is to demonstrate the sheer variety of valid sacred expression throughout the world. The difference between the grave, ethereal Buddhist temple music of China's Wutai Shan mountains and the dynamic African-derived Lucumi rhythms of Cuba could hardly be greater. Yet each is immediately suggestive of profound beliefs and devout worship.

Both music have survived in supposedly secular societies, and through huge social upheavals. Consider how the Afro-Cuban drum rhythms persisted even through the brutal displacement of the slave trade era. There is something miraculous about the fact that we can hear these African musical elements resonating still in music that comes from another continent.

The manner in which great religions absorb or graft indigenous beliefs can show itself in compelling musical structures.



Giving voice to a profound belief: the Senegalese Muslim sect musicians, Beugue Fallou, feature in Spirit of the Earth

There will be several examples of that among the concerts scheduled for Spirit of the Earth: the Syrian Christian singing of Lebanon; Senegalese Muslim sect musicians, Beugue Fallou; and the Sudanesian music from Western Java, a blend of Islamic and animist beliefs. Even without any knowledge of their religions' histories and deeper meanings, audiences will find that these performers convey perfectly well the subtlety and mystery of their music.

Naturally, there is an element of

spiritual tourism about this gentle wander through the sacred. Religious music are functional. They praise their own Gods, demand a code of conduct from their worshippers and do not transfer easily to the concert halls of Europe. If we are not prepared to engage with their original purpose, we are in danger of reducing them to decoration and belittling the performers' commitment.

Yet large numbers of Westerners

have shown in the last few years a sincere desire to learn from sacred

its lyrics. It is that very openness that has brought it such a wide audience.

● Spirit of the Earth is at the Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire (021-236 2392), from today to July 18, and then at the South Bank Centre (011-928 8500) in London until July 25.

● The WOMAD festival is at Rivermead, Reading (0734 591591), July 17 to 19.

● The Caribbean Music Village is part of the Lee Valley Park Big Weekend, Waltham Abbey (071-579 1066) tomorrow.

## A devil of a tricky problem



Sitting on top of a sexual volcano? Jimmie Green, Roger Allam and Julia Dearden

**M**ichael Harding's play is set in Dublin during the Pope's visit to Ireland, back in 1979, when any condom that dared to raise its head in the Emerald Isle was dispatched as ruthlessly as St Patrick dealt with snakes. Events in the play's first half seem clear enough but dull; after the interval what happens becomes impenetrable but intriguing.

First things first: a pooka is a supernatural creature, cousin of our English Puck, maybe Flann O'Brien's novel *At Swim-Two-Birds* is a handy guide in these arcane matters, and the courteous Pooka in his book is described as a member of the devil class. So much for one half of the title. *Una*, to those of us ignorant of the Gaelic tongue, might be supposed to be an indefinite article; but wait, the 30-year-old spinster in Harding's play is named *Una*. Does some strange alchemy bind her to the mysterious visitor at her brother's house?

### THEATRE

**Una Pooka**  
Tricycle, Kilburn

Next, something of the plot. Aidan (James Nesbitt), schoolteacher and scoutmaster, is fruitlessly married to an ex-pupil (Lisa Ann McLaughlin) and going rapidly round the twist, imagining her to be a witch intent on destroying what passes for his manhood. His grim mother and loutish brother, under-developed characters both, arrive to watch the papal procession, accompanied by Una (Julia Dearden) and soon joined by Father Simeon (Roger Allam) who is said to be a distant cousin, if he is a human being at all.

Soon after his arrival the lights change, and he and Una are discussing in some future time the death (murder? suicide?) that we have yet to see. Is the charming Father

Simeon a devil? An angel? The reincarnation of kindly Pope John XXIII? Or a figment of Una's own disordered mind?

The play moves between this strange future and the acrimonious domestic reality that even a papal visit cannot disguise. Clearly Harding is aiming for a state-of-the-nation piece and has chosen a tricky, though actually tricky, structure to support it. But the "who-is-he?" puzzle is increasingly distraction from the emerging theme of sexual repression, and Dearden's performance is not, until her last aghast moments, quite strong enough to convey this.

Allam's bland diplomatic murmurs are cleverly done, and he makes a most inviting tempter, but the play promises more than it delivers. Mark Lambert and Nicolas Kent set their production on a living room floor bulging up from the surrounding walls as though perched on top of a sexual volcano.

**JEREMY KINGSTON**

### OPERA

**La donna del lago**  
La Scala  
Milan

"THE emotions in this opera are not part of human nature — they are like mathematical axioms," Werner Herzog explained to the Press before his debut as director at La Scala, and one struggled in vain to imagine what a purely algebraic production of *La donna del lago* might look like in prosaic practice, however.

Herzog has settled for a decorously traditional deployment of his performers and the whole tone of the production is dictated by the sets.

Massimo Baldi's Scotland is a Gothic nightmare constructed of towering masses of black rock twisting and twining into shapes that hint at the murky

### Rossini by numbers

#### OPERA

**La donna del lago**  
La Scala  
Milan

recesses of the psyche. Rossini's analyst might have been impressed, but aesthetically it could hardly be further from the lyrical, idyllic point.

This visual perversity is thrown into stark relief by the refined beauty of the musical performance under Riccardo Muti, whose approach falls firmly on the early side of the classical/romantic divide that *La donna del lago* straddles: textures are translucent, rhythms lightly sprung.

Jens Anderson and Martine Dupuy give virtuoso performances as Elena and Malcolm, making expressive sense of their florid music but caressing the ear as well. Rockwell Blake as Umberto is technically brilliant too, but nobody could claim that most of the sounds he makes are lovely. Chris Merritt attacks Rodrigo's high notes thrillingly but elsewhere can be rough in timbre and tuning.

**NIGEL JAMIESON**

### REMARKABLE

#### THRILLING

**John Nettles' Leontes**  
...SUPERB

"INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY"

"John Nettles' Leontes...SUPERB"

"INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY"

"INDEPENDENT ON SUND

KIND FOOD: ALISON JOHNSON

## Drop the dead donkey

Worn out and neglected donkeys of southern Europe often end up in Italy where they are turned into salami. I am assured by people who ought to know.

Such salami could, of course, feature in even the most august delicatessens in this country. When it comes to "value added products" — made-up dishes — hygiene regulations are adequate, but labelling is not. I do not want to eat ill-treated donkeys, and most people would not want to eat donkey at all. But if you scrutinise the other items laid out on the deli counter, there is much that is bad news for animal welfare.

Take ham and pork products, including pies, pâtés and terrines. Virtually all originate from pigs kept in



### Salt pressed silverside

5lb/2.5kg piece silverside  
For the brine  
1 gal/4.5l water  
1 1/2lb/750g salt  
8oz/250g light muscovado sugar  
To cook  
2 onions, 2 carrots, 10 pepper corns, 1 bayleaf, 2 cloves (optional: thyme, parsley, juniper berries)

intensive systems. Then there's the egg factor. Unless "egg" in a list of ingredients is clearly stated to be free-range, even the most innocuous looking vegetarian quiche will be made with battery eggs.

If you're looking at more luxurious items, things are no better. Frogs' legs involve hideous cruelty, as the animals are sliced in half alive and can take hours to die, and the trade is ecologically devastating to Bangladesh and other poor regions, because no frogs means plagues of insects and recourse to fearsome insecticides, which in turn poison people and wildlife.

I have written before about the foulness of foie gras, or any of the products containing it, but did you know that quails' eggs are battery quails' eggs, and that smoked salmon is invariably farmed salmon?

So what do you do if your conscience pricks, but you want the luxury of easy entertaining? If you are prepared to pay extra for something really special there are sources of humanely reared, ready to eat food obtainable by mail order (see foot of column).

Today's recipe is for a

If beef is unsalted, mix brine ingredients, boil and cool. Pour over beef to cover. Leave in a cold place in a covered vessel (not metal, unless enamelled) for four days.

Soak beef in cold water for three hours to remove excess salt. Drain. Place in a casserole, where it will fit snugly, add chopped vegetables and seasonings. Just cover with water, bring to boil, cover, simmer three hours on very low heat.

Remove meat, place in a deep dish, press with a weight (about 2lb/1kg: say, a large can of tomatoes on a tea plate). Leave for 24 hours before turning out.

• Kind food suppliers: Head Farm (especially pork) 0799 572077. Pure Meat Co (conservation grade) 0244 681333. Real Meat Co (organic) 0985 405051.

The best ingredients and a quick turnover have brought rewards to a chain of croissant shops.

Mary Wilson reports

**O**n Tuesday, Bastille Day, Dennis Toff will be celebrating the sale of his 40 millionth croissant and the tenth anniversary of his chain of Le Croissant Shops.

Mr Toff and his partner, Chris Pullen, opened their first tiny croissant kiosk on Waterloo station in 1982, after witnessing the lengthy queues outside a similar shop in the centre of Paris.

"I was in Paris in 1981," Mr Toff explains. "I was meant to be meeting somebody in connection with some other business, but the meeting fizzled out. I rarely have the time to do any shopping, so I decided to go and buy some ties.

Down a small alley near the Galeries Lafayette I saw a kiosk selling croissants. I was taken by the wonderful smell and the number of people buying them. I watched for ages, and worked out that the turnover must be very good. And I sampled the product, of course.

"I decided to find out how it was done and discovered their success was down to a freshly baked product which achieved high volume of turnover in a very small space.

"I had no experience in this sort of thing, but I had a friend, Chris Pullen, who owned three cafés, and he agreed sounded a good idea. [Mr Pullen is now the operations director.] My primary premise, which still holds, was that the product must be freshly baked and something you can eat in your hand.

"We decided railway stations would be the best location. We could open for long hours and get a huge turnover of people. I managed, with difficulty, to get concession from Travellers Fare on one little kiosk, which had been a mini-market.

"I designed the new shop myself, and, as soon as we opened, it was a runaway success. Our next shop, at Luton, was quite the reverse. It was a disaster. It was in quite the wrong position and we closed it within six months."

That has been his only real error.

There are now 21 shops — 13 of them are croissant shops, six are Jardin de Paris selling French bread sandwiches and a few croissants, one is Pizza Now, and one a Cafexpress.

This last, Mr Toff's newest variation

on the theme, concentrates on the coffee and sells just six varieties of croissant. The reason is that it fits into an even tinier space — the first one on Waterloo is just 65 sq ft.

Jardin de Paris and Pizza Now were started because the company always tenders if any shop space comes up near their existing premises, in order to stop the competition, and it does not want to have two croissant shops side by side.

One thing Mr Toff cares about passionately is using the best ingredients for every one of his products, including his coffee.

All the products, except the cream



Quality control: Dennis Toff, founder of Le Croissant Shop, insists that only French bakers can produce the perfect croissant every time

cheese and ham filling, come from France. "I wanted absolutely the best ingredients and although I looked at a couple of very good bakers here, they could not come near the same quality or price. The French have such a civilised attitude towards food. I couldn't find people in England who care as much about creating the perfect croissant every time."

"I have six different manufacturers in France and we bring across the prepared frozen croissants and bread in raw dough state every week. They are then cooked in the shops."

"I have my smoked salmon, which goes into the sandwiches, specially smoked, and our producers buy the butter in the summer from Normandy and Brittany, and in winter from Périgord, because the taste alters depending on the climate."

Each unbaked roll of dough has to be exactly 23 cm long and 5 mm wide. All his trays and equipment are made in France and he makes his own shelves, preparation areas and odd-shaped sinks, so every spare millimetre is used.

When he decided to start selling American cookies, he went to great lengths to make sure they were exactly right. "I took a long time finding out from many different producers how these could be made."

"I went to a US exhibition when I was researching how to make them and found one company producing them totally from artificial products. They actually tasted quite good. But I discovered that we could make them without any additives, colouring or

preservatives. They are all pure ingredients and the chocolate has no sugar in it, it is 65 per cent cocoa fat."

There are 14 varieties of croissant and 16 of sandwich, and what sells best is monitored regularly. On the whole, slightly more sweet than savoury items are sold, with chocolate, followed by *pain au raisins* varieties, the constant best sellers for more than ten years. Cheese comes third.

The only variety taken off the menu was a spinach croissant, introduced simply through a desire to try something different. It was not a success and was replaced by ratatouille, which did not sell at all until its name was changed to vegetable "savoury", apparently because most people did not know what ratatouille was. Mr Toff is planning to reintroduce the spinach croissant, however.

One curiosity is that at London Bridge and beside Holborn Tube his clientele has a marked taste for the savoury products, while at Liverpool Street a sweeter tooth is prevalent.

Mr Toff is now 65 and amused that he now qualifies for free travel on public transport. But his enthusiasm is undimmed. He has lived most of his life in Edgware, north London, has kept a boat in the south of France for a number of years and in 1988 bought a house in Venice, near Nice, where he is constructing a sundial. "Did you know that Victorians used sundials to correct their timepieces?" he says.

On Tuesday, every one of his shops will be decked out with the tricolor, and he will be giving away a free croissant and free badge. Badges are all the rage in France, Mr Toff explains.

His largest shop (900 sq ft) is in Oxford Street, and he is hoping to get planning permission to make part of it his first down-area. When he left here he was deliberating over whether he should serve the coffee in the plastic cups they are usually sold in for take-away, or to go for proper cups. Much more expensive, he agrees, but the coffee would taste so much better.

## FLAT ROOFS THAT WILL PROBABLY OUTLAST YOU.

**This Engineered Roofing System is a big step forward in flat roofing technology that puts a stop to the expense and annoyance of having to continually re-cover and maintain your flat roof.**

**Incorporating EPDM, manufactured by Firestone our system is unaffected by wind, U.V. rays, ozone and extremes of temperature and is fire retardant when tested to British Standard 476 Part 3:1958.**

**It can be installed quickly and with**

**minimum mess or fuss and with a life expectancy in excess of 25 years — you can understand why we have no qualms in offering a 20 year no quibble guarantee.**

**As a member of Safe Buy UK you will be assured of a worthwhile guarantee and value for money.**

**Contact us today by phone or coupon and we will walk your roof and give you a free survey.**

**THE THERMABOND CONTRACTS LTD.**

**Firestone BUILDING PRODUCTS**

**NOBODY COVERS YOU BETTER.**

**Available throughout the U.K., Channel Islands and Ireland.**

**TEL: HEAD OFFICE ON 061 876 5176**

**7 DAYS A WEEK FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.**

**TM11/92**

## Good year for schist debris

Robin Young appeals for more helpful, less esoteric wine lists

I have just spent a day beating through restaurant wine lists, judging which should receive awards as the wine lists of the year in the next edition of *Egon Ronay's Cellarette Guide To Hotels and Restaurants*. It made a fascinating study, and not merely to see how many restaurants believe that Taittinger is spelt without the first "i", and that Gewürztraminer comes with an extra "t" between the "r" and "z".

The diversity of reading material offered for pre-prandial perusal is astonishing, even when correctly spelt. One could work up a healthy appetite, for instance, just from the effort of turning the pages of the imposing list from the Charnpan Inn in Linlithgow, Lothian, a steak house which can offer seven vintages of expensive Spanish Vega Sicilia, yet find room for only three beaujolais. Does anybody really read the geology lecture notes with which Charnpan introduces its wines, or want to know that the wine they are thinking of ordering came from "slopes covered with limestone schist debris"?

In similarly didactic fashion, Netherfield Place, at Bartsde in Sussex, notes the dates on which picking started for its various vintages of claret.

More entertaining by far were the quotable quotes used to embroider the 600-strong and fairly priced list from Auchterarder House, Perthshire, with sources ranging

from H. Warner Allen and Sir Walter Scott to Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, the script-writers of *Porridge*.

Scotts dining at Inver House, Banchory, in the Grampian region, will not lack for conversational gambits either. The curiosity notes landed into the wine list there include the world record flight achieved by a champagne cork and the heart-stopping accident which befell one of the world's costliest bottles.

However, when it comes to notes that will actually help customers choose wine to accompany their meal, restaurateurs become noticeably more reticent. That is fair enough in places like Chewton Glen at New Milton in Hampshire, the leading country house hotel, health and conference centre, which has the services of Britain's champion sommelier, Gerard Basset, on hand to guide guests through a list so eclectic that it even has sections for Luxembourg and Moldavia. However, most restaurants in Britain still do not have a wine waiter worthy of the name, and too many wine lists offer no help either.

Escargot in Soho, in London's West End, used to run an excellent short wine list, compiled by Janice Robinson, which sorted wines by grape variety and style. Now Charles Trevor-Roper at Brookdale House, North Huish, in Devon, is virtually alone in offering a list helpfully pre-arranged into styles — dry, medium and sweet whites, light, medium and full reds.

France's 1991 white wines are much more acidic than the 1990s were, so vintage changes that are affecting the wine lists just now could be particularly significant. I was

interested, however, in the initiative taken by the Old Bridge Hotel in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, where the printed list attempts to predict to the month when the vintage of each wine will be changed, which at least gives customers as much as they deserve to be.

On my scorecard, restaurants lost points for listing alternative vintages next to their wines (eg. 1990/1991) as though it were a matter of indifference. But they would have lost even more if I had been ordering from a list showing one definite vintage and had then been brought a bottle of another, something that still happens far too frequently.

France's 1991 white wines are much more acidic than the 1990s were, so vintage changes that are affecting the wine lists just now could be particularly significant. I was

Sussex, who chooses his wines by organising blind tastings with his would-be suppliers as panelists, has only just got around to tasting for an Italian page in his otherwise catholic and serious list, because he took against Italian wines years ago when none of his customers would buy them.

Holding vast stocks of wines can be an expensive business, especially in the present climate when fine wines have not been easy to sell at marked-up prices. Paul Henderson at Gidleigh Park in Devon provides an example. His wine list recently contained 413 wines, with a supplement cataloguing another 180 bin ends and oddments. Not having been buying recently, he had reduced the value of his stocks to £106,000.

In the face of such figures it is a little surprising that restaura-

tors do not do more to market their wines. Adlards in Norwich has hit on the notion of having "bin beginnings" as well as bin ends, and the Sir Charles Napier at Chinnor, Oxfordshire, features a "claret of the month". But perhaps the most realistic and proselytising approach was that adopted by the Soho restaurant where we did our judging, Antony Worrall-Thompson's Dell Ugo.

Dell Ugo's wine list is unique in two ways. It identifies the supplier for each wine and gives his telephone number. It also groups wines on the list by the factor which determines more choices than any other consideration: price. On the Worrall-Thompson list you see at a glance what you can have for £12.50, £15, £17.50 and so on. Frankly it makes more sense than many other wine lists I saw.



Sensible idea: Antony Worrall-Thompson's wine list classifies its offerings by price

### Best buys

© Pinot d'Alsace 1990, Domaine Zind-Humbrecht, Wine Rack, £7.59

A wine I would like to see on every restaurant wine list, much better than ubiquitous chardonnay at similar price. Firm, full, ripe and round, with a touch of pineapple and honey in the rich finish. Excellent with all sorts of food — full-flavoured fish, sweetbreads, coronation chicken, pork sausages.

© Samson-Champagne La Grande Vignolle 1990, Paul Filliatress, Yapp Bros of Mere, £6.50

A gross deficiency on too many wine lists is of summer red wine to drink cool at cellar temperature. This young wine with a heady burst of fruit flavours concealing its gentle tannins is just the thing for summer meals.

© Georges Duboeuf Flower Label Bourgogne 1991, Sofeway £5.29

The 1991 cru beaujolais are God and Duboeuf's gift to restaurateurs and wine bar owners. This powerful and flavoursome wine tasting of red and black berries is one among many winners.

SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

## FOOD AND DRINK

DIANA LEADGETTER

## Impressions of a French picnic

Frances Bissell, the Times cook, presents ideas and recipes for an elegant *déjeuner sur l'herbe* — in an English garden setting

THE French Impressionists have a lot to answer for. At the first glimpse of summer we dream of the dappled delights of a woodland walk and a charming *déjeuner sur l'herbe*. Pretty woodlands, however, are not always easily accessible. The alternative is to spread a pretty cloth on a table in the garden. With Bastille Day (July 14) just a few days away, that is all the encouragement I need to produce a taste of France. The French writer Pauline Dard inspired my recipe for chilled snails: his suggestion was to pipe a mousse into the shell, but I wonder, since it is not cooked, how do you extract the mousse from the shell? Stuff a tomato cup instead — or a blanched mushroom cap, courgette, aubergine, or cucumber tub.

It is important to have a well-coloured jelly to go with the beef recipe, pink so that, if the beef is rare, the jelly will complement it. A large bowl of freshly cooked new potatoes, dressed with walnut oil or extra virgin olive oil and some snipped-up chives and chive flowers, is a good accompaniment.

The pea and bean salad is substantial and full of flavour; serve it with a salad of brown rice or mixed grains with chopped mint and other herbs, and it will please vegetarians. To follow, try peaches and nectarines.

On occasions like this, I prefer cool, fruity red wines to white (unless there is champagne).

But first, a pale, leafy green cocktail to get you into the mood:

**Herb garden punch**  
(makes about 1.5pt/850ml)

- 2 leafy stems each of mint, French tarragon and basil
- 1pt/570ml water
- 10oz/280g sugar
- 2 measures white rum
- 1 measure orange liqueur
- juice of a lemon
- juice of a lime
- chilled sparkling mineral water

Bring the herbs and water to the boil in a saucepan and simmer for three minutes. Strain the liquid into a large jug and stir in the sugar. Cool and chill. Pour the spirits, liqueurs and fruit juices into

a large glass jug. Stir in the herb syrup; add mineral water to taste.

**Snails with chilled garlic mousse**  
(serves 8)

- 48 cherry tomatoes or 24 larger ones
- 4 dozen small or medium snails
- 6 cloves fresh garlic, peeled and crushed
- 6 spring onions, bulbs only and finely chopped
- bunch of chervil, finely chopped
- 1tbsp tarragon mustard
- sea salt
- freshly ground black pepper
- 1pt/280ml whipping cream, whipped

Skim the larger tomatoes, cut them in half and scoop out the seeds; cherry tomatoes just need a cap cut off and seeds removed (rub the seeds and pulp through a sieve and use the liquid as a base for a vinaigrette to mix with a nut oil or extra virgin olive oil). Rinse and drain the snails and put one into each tomato cup. Mix the garlic, onions, chervil, mustard and seasoning and fold into the whipped cream. Pipe or spoon over snails, and refrigerate until needed.

**Roast jellied beef**  
(serves 8)

- 2lb/900g pieces of skirt steak
- 2tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 6 sheets of gelatine
- Marinade

1btrt provencal dry rose wine

2 carrots peeled and thinly sliced

1 celery stalk, trimmed and thinly sliced

1 onion, peeled, quartered and thinly sliced

4 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced

3oz/85ml ruby port or red vermouth

1 bay leaf

1 sprig of lemon thyme

1 sprig or two of parsley

1/2sp crushed black peppercorns

Trim the beef of fat and sinews, place it in a bowl and add the marinade ingredients. Cover and marinate overnight. Next morning, remove the meat from the marinade, dry it and try it in the olive oil to brown it lightly. Pour on the marinade ingredients and simmer on the lowest possible heat until done to your liking. I find that skirt is best served either rather rare, in which case 15 minutes will probably be sufficient, or well cooked very slowly (about 1½-2 hours). Remove the meat from the

pot, and let it rest for 15-20 minutes before slicing it. Add the meat juices to the pan juices. Then slice the meat and lay it in overlapping slices in a serving dish. Scoop out some of the carrots and celery and arrange these with the meat. Have the gelatine soaking in a little cold water, and then strain the cooking juices through a very fine sieve or muslin to obtain as clear a juice as possible, and mix in the gelatine until dissolved. Pour over the beef. Cool and then chill, and serve when just lightly jellied.

**Salad of peas and beans**  
(serves 8)

Use some or all of the following, about 2lb/900g prepared and in the following:

- First French beans, runner beans, broad beans, garden peas, mangeout, sugar snap peas
- Dried: green lentils, chick peas, flageolets, soissons, haricot or cannellini beans

2 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed

sea salt

freshly ground black pepper

juice of half a lemon

1pt/70ml walnut oil

Cook the fresh vegetables as briefly as possible, then drain. The dried beans can be cooked the day before. Mix the garlic, seasoning, juice and oil in a large salad bowl. Stir in the freshly cooked green vegetables and the drained, cooked pulses.

YOU should make the blancmange for the following dish at least four hours in advance.

**Fromage blancmange with peaches or nectarines**  
(serves 8)

- 5 leaves or 5sp of gelatine
- 10oz/280g fromage blanc
- 4pt/140ml milk

5oz/140g caster sugar

1pt/280ml whipping cream

6 peaches or nectarines

7fl oz/200ml white dessert wine, red wine or apple juice

2-3oz/60-85g sugar

grated zest of 2 oranges

juice of two oranges

2-3 cloves

small stick of cinnamon

1oz/30g toasted flaked almonds

Soften the gelatine in a little water. Bear the fromage blanc in a bowl until smooth. Bring the milk and

sugar to the boil in a saucepan. Stir in softened gelatine until it too has dissolved. Remove from heat. Pour mixture into the fromage blanc and stir until blended. Allow to cool completely. Whip the cream and fold into the fromage blanc. Pour the mixture into a wet charlotte or jelly mould. Smooth the surface and refrigerate for about four hours until set. An hour before serving, put the wine, sugar, juice and spice in a saucepan, heat until the sugar has dissolved, then boil until the

mix begins to thicken. Remove from heat. As it cools, peel and slice the fruit; put in a bowl and pour on the cool syrup. Let this macerate for half an hour or so. Turn out the blancmange, spoon the fruit around it, and decorate with toasted almonds.

**Strawberries with cinnamon, black pepper and baileys syrup**  
(serves 8)

1x3in/7.5cm cinnamon stick

12 roughly crushed black peppercorns

sugar to the boil in a saucepan. Stir in softened gelatine until it too has dissolved. Remove from heat. Pour mixture into the fromage blanc and stir until blended. Allow to cool completely. Whip the cream and fold into the fromage blanc. Pour the mixture into a wet charlotte or jelly mould. Smooth the surface and refrigerate for about four hours until set. An hour before serving, put the wine, sugar, juice and spice in a saucepan, heat until the sugar has dissolved, then boil until the

mix begins to thicken. Remove from heat. As it cools, peel and slice the fruit; put in a bowl and pour on the cool syrup. Let this macerate for half an hour or so. Turn out the blancmange, spoon the fruit around it, and decorate with toasted almonds.

**Strawberries with cinnamon, black pepper and baileys syrup**  
(serves 8)

1x3in/7.5cm cinnamon stick

12 roughly crushed black peppercorns

**FRANCE**  
GREAT CLASSICS  
OEufs en meurette

COOKING en meurette is a specialty of Burgundy and the regions to the east. Food cooked in this way is served with a sauce made from the red wine in which it was first poached. Eels, river fish, chicken and veal are cooked like this.

One of the best known dishes uses eggs, which are poached in red wine, drained, and put to one side while the wine is reduced and added to mushrooms, bacon and small onions, which have been cooked separately.

This makes a fine lunch or supper dish for one or two, but less easy to cook for more than four, because of the difficulty of controlling a number of poaching eggs.

The most sumptuous version of oeufs en meurette I have tasted is served at La Côte St Jacques in Joigny, where, as well as the usual accompaniments, Michel Lorain cooks small cubes of calves' liver and wild mushrooms.

As the red wine is not only the cooking medium but becomes, on reduction, the sauce, it is advisable to use a drinkable wine. You can use pickling onions, or spring onions with good-sized bulbs.

**Oeufs en meurette**  
(serves 2)

- 30g/85g streaky bacon
- 8 small onions, peeled
- 10 button mushrooms
- 1oz/30g butter
- 1btrt good red wine
- 2-4 very fresh free-range eggs
- seasoning

Discard rind and cut bacon into small pieces. Fry gently in a small pan and when the fat runs, add the onions. Cook on low heat until onions are almost tender. Wipe and slice or quarter mushrooms. Add butter to the pan, raising the heat slightly, and fry mushrooms. Move pan to the back of the stove while you poach the eggs. Pour wine into a second shallow pan.

Bring to the boil, crack eggs and slide them into the wine from opposite sides of the pan. Cook until the white has just set, enclosing the yolk. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Boil the wine fiercely to reduce it by half, and pour it into the pan with the onions, bacon and mushrooms. Tidy up the eggs and place on toast or fried bread in a heated soup plate. Spoon the hot sauce over.

F.B.

## Eternal youth in a soup bowl

Hong Kong's foremost foodie on bird's nest to bear's paws

Occidentals know little about the 19th-century Emperor Minh Mang of Vietnam, but two facts float to the surface like Chinese whispers. Perhaps so, but I prefer the theory that it keeps you young. Willie Mark, president of the Federation of Hong Kong Restaurant Owners, says:

This lends force to rumours of the aphrodisiac qualities of bird's nests which have spread throughout Southeast Asia like Chinese whispers. "Perhaps so, but I prefer the theory that it keeps you young. Willie Mark, president of the Federation of Hong Kong Restaurant Owners, says:



Gourmet treat: Willie Mark (left) ponders the dubious delights of sea-swallow saliva



Expert: Chris Patten

Five years remain before Hong Kong is handed over to China. Whatever their future, its six million inhabitants remain addicted to their favourite occupations: eating and making money. Mr Mark happily combines both. He is a food import-exporter, restaurant consultant and author of two daily eating-out columns in Cantonese newspapers. It is his business to taste in twice a day, and he would not change his job for all the tea in China. His words.

There is no lengthy consultation of the menu as he sits at the table of a Kowloon-side restaurant. With jade mugs and ivory chopsticks in position, he opes for his standard lunch-time opening, "Shark's fin soup in supreme stock. The sun-dried fins have to be soaked for several days to soften them, then boiled for as many hours.

"Next, abalone casserole, appreciated for its high protein content. Traditionally cooked in a stock of pigskin and chicken legs, it is tastier cooked in chicken and sponge rib stock in a ceramic pot.

"To follow, steamed garoupa fish. Then steamed rice. Finally, bird's nest soup in almond cream. With a bottle of white burgundy, the bill for two will be about HK\$3,000 (£202)."

Mr Mark is a trencherman who treats lunch as an appetiser to the evening meal. He calls Hong Kong the uncontested capital of Southeast Asian gastronomy. However, his descriptions are sometimes trifle off-putting. Bird's nest, for example. "The basic ingredient is the saliva of the sea swallow with which the bird fashions its nest. Red-tinted nests, containing blood, are the most desirable and are used to give flavour and texture."

A mong the many bowls of noodles in which he sits at the annual Hong Kong food festival, when the territory's kitchen brigades representing Thai, Japanese and Indian cuisines as well as the various regions of China — go into overdrive. There is always something for the most adventurous palate. Anybody for bœuf? They are half-hatched duck eggs, often eaten raw. Deep-fried grasshoppers, at 30p a teaspoon, are a crackly snack to go with a glass of Tsing Tao beer.

Or spiced duck tongues, jellyfish, honeyed eel, 1,000-year-old eggs, chicken paw.

"The left paw, for preference, because it's the one most frequently licked by the bear, and therefore the more tender," he says. "These days,

imports such as asparagus. A new generation of chefs is exporting its talents to Canada and the United States, the preferred destinations for those emigrating before 1997. One of the restaurants at London's Dorchester hotel is The Oriental, run by Hong Kong chef Fook Yuen. When the nearby Langham Hilton opened last year, one of its first guest chefs was Ken Horn, whose recent book, *Fragrant Harbour Taste*, is subtitled "The New Chinese Cooking of Hong Kong".

As the final course arrives, Mr Mark admits he does not like bird's nest soup. "I was sickly as a young boy in mainland China and was forced to eat it as medicine to give me strength."

Chris Patten, who took over as governor of Hong Kong on Thursday, is an acknowledged aficionado of Chinese food. He might, therefore, enjoy a meal at the La Ching Heen in Kowloon's Regent Hotel, where, according to the *Gault Millau* guide, the food is "small tastes of heaven".

Mr Mark, flicking through the pages, has had his lunchtime rice. Now he is looking forward to an evening of pear with scallops, and bean curd with spicy beef sauce.

ALASDAIR RILEY

## EXCLUSIVE LATE BARGAINS

## ONLY FROM PICKFORDS TRAVEL

GATWICK		EXETER	
13 July	Tunisia	7 Hotel	H/B £205
13 July	Tunisia	14 Hotel	H/B £285
16 July	Thassos	7 Pension	B/B £159
17 July	Turkey	7 Pension	B/B £234
18/20 July	Corfu	7 Flight Only	£95
18 July	Austria	7 Pension	B/B £149
18 July	Majorca	14 Apt (4)	S/C £310
18 July	Majorca	14 Hotel	H/B £239
19 July	Corsica	14 Villa/Pool/Car (4)	£399
19 July	Bulgaria	7 Hotel	£88
20 July	Turkey	14 Hotel	£264
21 July	Crete	14 Hotel	£240
21 July	Majorca	14 Hotel	H/B £244
21 July	Crete	14 Apt (4)	S/C £244
22 July	Ibiza	14 Flight Only	£109
22 July	Rhodes	14 Studio	S/C £229
22 July	Rhodes	14 Hotel	H/B £315
22 July	Ibiza	14 Villa/Pool/Car (4)	



## Blood flows as one man goes to mow a meadow

**T**hey say that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing, but in my short farming experience I have found the reverse. It is often a single, small piece of knowledge which saves the day.

An example surfaced this week when I decided that in the interests of good husbandry some long grass in the meadows needed topping. I had a choice of several ways of doing it: I could harness the horses to the clipper, get out the noisy petrol-driven strimmer, or be true to my vintage farming ambitions and unearth the scythe.

I rejected the horses because the area to be cut was small, and it would take as much effort to bring the horses into the stable, harness them and walk them to the meadow as it would in cut each blade of grass with nail scissors.

This left the strimmer and the scythe. So why, against all my natural inclinations, did I nearly

### FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY



opt for the stinking strimmer? Especially when I have in the barn a gleaming new scythe with a steam-bent handle and finely honed blade stamped with the essential words: "Made in Shetland"? The answer is that much as I have tried to develop a working relationship with this primitive instrument, I have so far failed to get the hint of a tune out of it. I had taken it into long grass and weeds and slashed from side to side in a rhythmical manner, twisting at the waist and shuffling forward like a young hopeful in a *Comme Dancing* contest. Yet although I have achieved a considerable sweat on my brow, I have failed to mow much grass. Tufts of grass are dragged out but that is not mow-

ing. I dream of slicing through the vegetation, an even depth of cut and a song on my lips: "One man went to mow, went to mow a meadow..." Mark the word *mow*. Not mangle.

I have two sources of reference when faced with a dilemma such as this. One is Derek himself, something of a vintage item, but all he could offer was advice given to him by a gypsy: "If you ever slice yourself, you must piddle on the cut and you will live happily ever after."

My other source of reference is my collection of ageing farming tomes, but even here advice was scarce, although a 1914 edition of *Freman's Elements of Agriculture* offered the following: "The early

part of the stroke is easily made... but as material collects it becomes more difficult to finish the stroke. Young beginners make the end of the stroke with the left hand too far in advance of the left leg... which should be a little in the rear

of the right. After the first half of the stroke, the left hand should be drawn sharply round and near to the left leg... (It reminded me of an old teach-yourself-ballroom-dancing aid, showing white foot-

prints on a black carpet to demonstrate the military two-step.)

Then I thought that perhaps my action was not at fault, but that the blade was not sharp enough. I took a carbon dioxide stone and rubbed each side, as the textbook dictates, flatly along the side so as not to dull the edge. Alas, as I made my vigorous stroke I did not allow for the curve of the blade and soon blood ran from finger tip to elbow.

I remembered the gypsy's advice, but as I was quite close to the lane at the time I had to decide whether to incur his displeasure by favouring Elastoplast, or risk a charge of indecent exposure. In the end, I went home for tea.

"Have you got the hang of that scythe?" chorused Derek on his next visit, knowing full well that I had not. "I'll show you," he boasted, lifting the scythe from its hook in the barn. "Well, I can see what's wrong. You ain't got a grass nail."

That won't work with no grass nail!"

Now, I thought there were two ways to a scythe: the curved wooden handle called a snath, or snath, and the blade. But no. Between the two is a short rod, the length of a strong nail, which stops the blade twisting away from the grass being cut. It is not more than 3-in long and thinner than a pencil, but vital to the whole operation.

I contacted the scythe makers and as soon as the grass nail was fitted the scythe found its tune. It had the full-bodied feel of an entire orchestra. I swung and mowed, and sang. The scythe and I could have danced all night.

Now that you know the importance of the grass nail, those of a nervous disposition can put the knowledge to good use. Should you be haunted by visions of the Grim Reaper, check to see if his nail is in place. If it is missing, you have little to fear from him.



## Peer group pressure

**F**amilies with a leisurely Sunday on their hands may not be able to go to London Zoo any more, but these days they can always go shopping — or hop across to Euro Disney. So Britain's stately home owners must sharpen up their acts in the battle for visitor money.

At Woburn Abbey, the stately home of the Duke of Bedford, the Duke's grandson Andrew, Lord Howland, who is in charge of the day-to-day running of the business, is busy taking the 42-acre estate into the 21st century. And Longleat in Wiltshire, now in the hands of the new Marchioness of Bath, is on the cusp of change. Wildlife parks may have revolutionised the stately home industry and brought animals closer to visitors, but the noble owners of Longleat and Woburn feel the public need yet more attractions.

"It's no good us just looking at London Zoo as a competitor," Lord Howland says. "We have to look across the Channel to Euro Disney. Nor must we think of going to places like Woburn as simply a weekend occasion. With Sunday shopping people have other things to do on what has been our busiest day."

Now Lord Howland says he has ambitions to extend the park so it becomes a centre for endangered species. "What I should like to bring here, for instance, are javelin rhinos (there are only a dozen in the world) and a giant panda. We'd start from there."

He is also planning a theme park at Woburn organised jointly with Madame Tussaud's — "mainly rides and not waxworks, but all with an animal theme."

In addition there are ten



**Why Lord Bath (left) and others are scheming, by Michael Freedland**

Bath says: "It made a huge difference to our business. Now we have to move on. You have to keep people coming by sustaining their interest."

So now, in addition to the animals, visitors can see the sex murals — special fee to be paid, under-eighteens not admitted — painted by his lordship.

**T**he late Lord Bath undoubtedly started the modern stately home industry, in 1949. "It was not greeted very well by his fellow aristocrats," Lord Bath says. "It was a desperate measure, but they all came to copy him."

Now, 43 years later, more measures are needed. "We mustn't create a Disney world," he says, "but if we can bring more people here, say by bringing in more animals, and as a result keep Longleat in good repair, everything we do is worth it. Conventional zoos are not attractive to people any more."

Lord Howland agrees that zoos are no longer popular — although he points out that Woburn is not a zoo. "In a zoo the nearest you can get to an animal is six feet away. Here, separated only by a bit of metal and glass in your car, the animals get perhaps six inches from you. If you want to observe animals you can spend a day here just doing

different species of deer in the park itself — outside the animal kingdom. The problem is costs. They are escalating all the time. When grandpa brought the game park to Woburn it was a wonderful thing, and brought over a million visitors to the park in a year. But fashions and vogues in the tourist industry change. Twenty or 30 years ago, Woburn was in the country. Now it is virtually in London, thanks to the motorway and suburban development."

The wind of change is blowing most fiercely through the sprawling acres of Longleat. There, with a new Lord Bath installed — a man with very different ideas from those of his father, who died recently — a revolution is in the making.

Alexander Thynn, better known by his previous title of Viscount Weymouth, is sure his ideas will bring more people to Longleat and its wildlife park within the next year. "I have some very detailed plans," he says, promising "numerous changes".

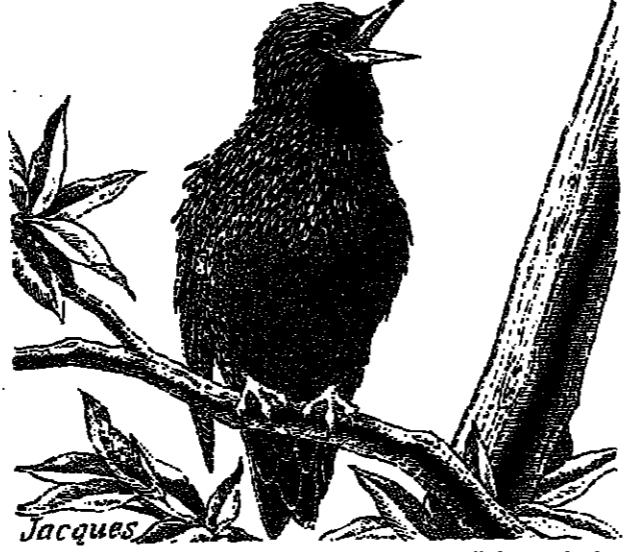
One of those changes is to bring in more animals, and to link the advantages of the animal area to his plans for a Centre Park holiday resort, with its indoor pools under a weatherproof dome.

"Bringing the lions to Longleat was one of the best things my father did," Lord Bath says. "Cheeky chirper: the starling is an accomplished mimic

and to do just that.

**Yarwood of the backyard**

### Feather report



**T**he other day a friend rang me to complain that a bird in his garden kept making a noise like the telephone ringing. It was driving him mad. What was it? The answer is simple: a starling, deliberately sounding like a telephone.

Starlings are compulsive mimics: hilarious, cheering and teasing. They do telephones, wolf-whistles, lawnmowers, cats. They will take on anything. I have a recording of a starling mimicking a farmyard chicken, a swallow, a farmer whistling his dog.

But what starlings do best is impersonations of other birds. I keep challenging a friend in the bird-recording business to market a tape entitled *So You Think You Know Birdsong*. It would have nothing but starlings on it, and you would have to work out what they were impersonating.

"I knew black-tailed godwit bred here as soon as I heard a starling doing the godwit's display-flight song," a black-bellied birdie once told me. I maintain that there is no more hilarious sound than that of a starling imitating a green woodpecker: a great roar of laughter echoing through the woods.

Why do they do it? What is the survival value of acting like a telephone, or a green woodpecker? Or, to add a few others that have been recorded, bullfinch, tawny owl, pheasant, oystercatcher, curlew, greylag goose. For a starling, everything they hear is good copy.

There are many other birds that go in for a bit of mimicry, though few as talented as starlings. Song thrushes do a fair bit, but always with a heavy song-thrush accent. But why? That is the puzzler. The most common reason for mimicry is that it provides a way of increasing the mimic's repertoire of song. For many birds, song is a crucial part of life. The finding and keeping

of mate and territory depends utterly on song.

With many species, it seems the best singers with the widest repertoires get the best mates, and the most food-packed territories. Nightingales and song thrushes compete for variety and volume. Song thrushes yell each other's calls back and forth like a duel in song.

Starlings aim, apparently, for a sumptuous variety, inspired by every call and song and sound they hear: it is, one observer wrote, "an acoustic peacock's tail".

A starling that trails such sonic clouds of glory is sending a message to the males and females of his species. To females, it means: "The huge variety of my song means that I am experienced: I'm high in the social order. I hold one of the best territories. Join up with me if you want to maximise your breeding potential." To males, the same song says: "My song is more complex and varied than yours. Take me on, and I will win. Look for a nest site somewhere else."

Wonderfully cheering birds, the starlings' huge aerial dance, when thousands of



**Relax in the Rural Beauty of Unspoilt**

**Tuscany**

7 nights by air  
from just £459!

This superb holiday offers you the opportunity to unwind in the enchanting surroundings of Barga, in the heart of the Tuscan hills.

Natural beauty, priceless treasures of art and architecture, enviable climate, delicious food and wine plus friendly people — all combine to guarantee you'll have a holiday to remember.

Your 7 night stay in the friendly, family run Hotel La Pergola gives you ample time to explore the surrounding countryside. And a full programme of included excursions ensures you'll visit the region's most fascinating villages and towns.

**Holiday Price Includes**

- 7 nights accommodation at half board
- 5 excursions as detailed
- Scheduled flights from London Heathrow
- Transfers between the airport and your hotel
- Services of an experienced tour leader
- Holiday Delay Insurance

**Your Included Excursions**

- Florence (full day)
- Siena and San Gimignano (full day)
- Pisa (full day)
- Cortona (half day)
- Castiglione di Chianti (half day)

**EXCELLENT VALUE — FULL PROGRAMME OF EXCURSIONS INCLUDED!**

Places are limited so, for greater speed or simply for more information, phone us now with your credit card handy for your deposit. Please quote the holiday number 1358.

Departs date 13/7/92

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (initials)

Address

Postcode

Home Tel No

1358/73/609

I enclose my cheque for £..... make payable to Page & Moy Ltd, as a deposit of £100 per person.

I wish to pay my deposit by credit card.

Account No. 1358/73/609

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Page & Moy may pay your deposit to other reputable companies who may then be able to offer you a better deal. Please tick if you prefer me to take care of this.

Postcode

1358/73/609

Date

13/7/92

Phone 0533 524461

136-140 London Road, Leicester LE1 1EN

A member of the Baden Group of companies

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/609

1358/73/6



# ANATIC COAST

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROS CRINKWATER



## HOW TO GET THERE

THE fastest route to the west coast in your own car involves a toss-up between time spent on the road and time spent on the boat. Portsmouth-St Malo is the longest ferry journey (nine hours) but it gets you to the N137 which goes to Nantes via Rennes, and which is acquiring more dual carriageway every year. (As we went to press Brittany Ferries said there had been no problems with blocked roads around St Malo. Take a good map and keep to minor roads.) Southampton, Weymouth or Portsmouth to Cherbourg is faster (five to six hours) but most of the advantage is lost in an extended road journey.

French Railways (SNCF) has recently started a TGV Atlantique, operating from Paris. There is a westward

route to Brest and Nantes and a southwest route to Bordeaux and Toulouse. For those who like to mix their travel modes this raises the option of flying to Nantes and catching a train to, say, Bordeaux, then hiring a car.

Flying may seem the fastest way to go, but that depends on whether your nearest regional airport flies to the place you want.

Brittany Ferries: Plymouth-Roscoff, Portsmouth-St Malo (0705 827701). Sealink Weymouth and Portsmouth-Cherbourg (0233 647047). P&O: Portsmouth-Cherbourg/Le Havre (0304 203388). Air France has flights from some British regional airports to Biarritz, Bordeaux and Nantes (071 499 9511). BA operates to Bordeaux (081 897 4000).

## EVENTS

IN SPITE of friendly Atlantic breezes there is no doubt that the further south you go in high summer the more sun-hardened you will need to be. The south really comes into its own at either end of summer for those who want to be warm rather than toasted: La Rochelle is especially pleasant in September, but a broil.

I have always thought that, given the paucity of such places in the UK, visiting a vineyard is no mean event. The *Maison du Vin, 1 Cours du 30 Juillet, Bordeaux 33000 (56 00 22 66)*, is the best source of bookings.

Two of the biggest events in St Jean-de-Luz each sum-

mer are the tuna festival on July 4 and the *toro* (a Basque fish stew) festival on September 5. The fishy flavour is also to be found in Le Nuit de la Sardine, which happens twice this year: today, and on August 8.

St Jean also has an international piano festival (July 1-3) and a rugby tournament (August 13-15).

The Atlantic coast is a fine place for yachting, afloat and just spectating. The biggest event is the La Rochelle yachting festival, in effect a boat show, which takes place in September (16-21). La Rochelle also has a film festival in June and a music festival in July (11-16).

of lunch in the village of Ars; right, taking the sun at Biarritz

architectural feel which is neither fish nor fowl.

The road takes you on to the two most northerly resorts on this stretch: Rochefort and La Rochelle. Rochefort is in fact an inland town on the Charente, whose port was built for the military in the 17th century.

La Rochelle has my vote on this northern stretch. Here the battlements rise splendidly, a reminder of the town's place in history when it was blockaded for 15 months by Cardinal Richelieu's troops. When the gates finally opened on October 28, 1628, the population had declined from 28,000 to 5,000. There is no need to starve in La Rochelle these days. The old port area is packed with res-

taurants offering everything from local oysters to Vietnamese and Chinese food. There are plenty of beaches, and it is worth taking a boat trip from the harbour to the nearby Ille d'Aix, a perfect walking spot mercifully almost free of motorised transport.

One of the difficulties attached to writing about the French Atlantic coast has been deciding what and where to omit. But that is also part of the enjoyment. Some places we planned to visit somehow escaped us, usually for want of time. That is perhaps the best tribute I can pay to the area: usually coastal holidays leave me kicking my heels this one left me wanting to go back.

• Next week: the Loire valley

Property in the Vendée with caretaker's cottage for £52,500

important wine-producing region in the world, including many famous names and areas, such as St Emilion, Médoc, Entre Deux Mers, Graves and Sauternes.

Less well known are its huge, Atlantic-swept beaches and the hunting and shooting paradise of Les Landes, a vast expanse of pine forests, lakes and sand dunes extending south for 150

miles to Bayonne. The area is still relatively undiscovered by British property buyers, and property prices are reasonably low. A small farmhouse needing renovation can cost as little as £20,000 in the more remote parts. Habitable houses cost from £30,000.

The Basque coast of the Pyrénées Atlantiques is lovely, but not without its share of concrete and crowded beaches.

and near Langon, an old town on the banks of the Garonne river, about 30 miles southeast of Bordeaux, 45 minutes inland from the coast. The countryside is pretty and peaceful, and a dilapidated *fermette* (farm cottage) on half an acre can still be bought for less than £25,000.

A restored country house with four or five bedrooms, a mile or so from the Sauternes wine area, costs about £65,000. For the wine buff, about £250,000 will buy a 13th-century manor house with a working Bordeaux vineyard.

Prices are lower further south in Les Landes. Half-timbered woodsmen's houses with steeply sloping roofs start at £20,000 for anything that is habitable. A traditional black and white timbered *Landaise* house, fully restored, on the edge of the Landes regional park, about 50 miles south of Bordeaux, costs about £45,000.

The Pyrénées Atlantiques is reached by the A10 autoroute from Paris to Bordeaux and Biarritz or by air to Biarritz, 90 minutes on the motorway from Pau. Allow at least two days, with an overnight stop, for the drive from Calais.

CHERYL TAYLOR

• Agents: *La Collection Française*, 66 High Street, Manton, Marlborough, Wilts (0672 516266); *The French Property Shop*, Wadham Road, Marlow, Bucks, SS14 2JL (0892 852449); *Sifex Ltd*, Phoenix House, 86 Fulham High Street, London SW6 (071 384 1200).

## WHERE TO SHOP

SURELY nobody goes shopping on holiday? Some hope. There is a cosmopolitan feel to most shopping these days which has infected even the insular French, who know how to set up a tourist-targeted display as well as the next window dresser. But if there is one overwhelming advantage to self-catering in France, it is the opportunity to plunder the shops for delicious local produce.

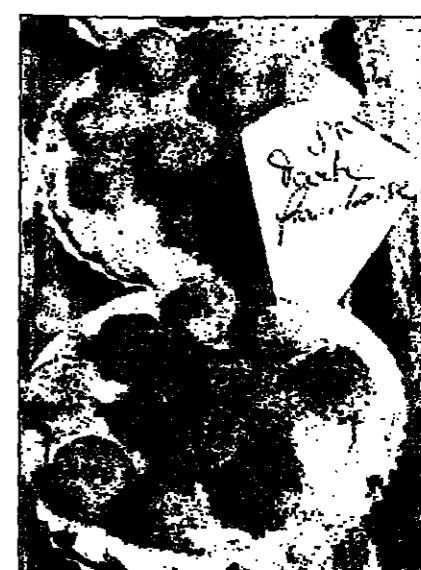
In this respect the coast divides roughly north-south. The northern ports tempt with succulent street stall displays of shellfish, especially mussels. The French use the latter in a mussel stew which is made with cream and white wine. Royan is famous for sardines, which can be bought early morning in the port area, straight off the boats (via a middleman).

Non-fish specialities in the north include innumerable goats' cheeses and melons brought in from the Charente.

The south is famous far beyond its own shores for Bayonne ham (*jambon de Bayonne*), a somewhat mystical name given that ham has never been cured at Bayonne; it comes from Orthez in the Béarn. The curing process is equally mystical, involving pigs bred in a certain area and salt from a spring at Sales-de-Béarn. Whatever the ins and outs, the result is delicious.

Maize-fed chickens are a speciality of the Landes. Nobody visiting the far south should miss out, either, on Gâteau Basque. I wrote about this splendid cake several years ago in *The Times*, saying that I had lost a recipe given me by a woman in St Jean-Pied-de-Port. The article was translated and appeared in a French newspaper, which the woman read. She then sent me the recipe. I have now lost it again. Madame, s'il vous plaît?

But beware of Gâteau Basque drying out. In St Jean-de-Luz we bought some that was deliciously moist in Etchebaster, a pâtisserie on the rue Gambetta (010 33



Queen of tarts: fruits of the pâtisserie

59 26 00 80). The same shop sells excellent macaroons.

If Bayonne cannot lay claim to its ham, it can take credit for magnificent chocolate, which has been made there since the 17th century. The liquid version, drinking chocolate, was apparently regarded as an elixir, so that as it may, the combination of chocolate, peppers, honey and maize is a delicious concoction.

Perhaps the best, if not the best known, liquor available in the south is a specifically Basque drink called *Izarra*. This costs between FF80 and FF90 a bottle and it goes down like nectar.

If you insist on something to bring home, a shop called *Elise* in the bvd Thiers, St Jean-de-Luz, sells the best range of locally-produced embroidered linens. There are several similar shops on the edge of the old port area.

## WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

THERE may well be lots of places in France where you can eat a lousy meal. In 20 years, I have found perhaps two. So I am acutely aware that, in recommending eating places, people with better developed palates than mine could find six better restaurants within half a mile. But resorts can, I suppose, be more risky than inland areas where the locals have to be satisfied more completely than the tourists, so here are some suggestions.

• **Capbreton:** This is a built-for-tourism town that does not at first sight promise quality eating. That is until you sit down at Le Café Bellevue (58 72 10 30), where we got through some ozone-fresh langoustines and lobster. Pricey but worth it.

• **St Jean-de-Luz:** The Hotel Grand took on a new chef, Patrice Demangel, three years ago. He is young and quite brilliant. My wife had a starter consisting of green and white asparagus in a sauce made from eggs and butter: the

thought of it lights up her face even now. We had *veal* as the main course and a very clever dessert based on the game of *pelota* using sorbet and chocolate. Scrumptious. Expensive, if this good can ever be called that.

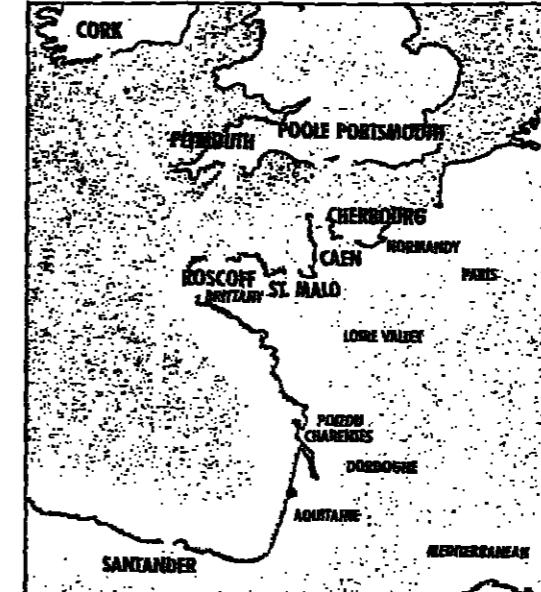
• **La Rochelle:** Le Corail is a genuinely cheap and cheerful restaurant in the Place de la Chaine (46 50 59 69) run by a French couple who offer two menus, at FF55 and FF90, with a surprisingly wide choice of courses on each: four starters, four main courses and three desserts. This can often reflect an excess of zeal, but not here.

• **Fouras:** this pretty resort north of Rochefort has the perfect antidote to heat-inducing thirst: a shady café with padded chairs called *La Cafetière*, on La Grande Plage, where they serve a FF50 brunch between 10am and 3pm. The meal consists of smoked fish, stewed fruit, eggs, fresh orange juice, toast, pastries and a drink. The à la carte menu has excellent crêpes.

## TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT TO HOLIDAY FRANCE AND SPAIN..

### USE THE BYPASS

With us you drive on your holiday, not to your holiday. Only our great value routes take you direct to where you want to go. Perfect for the independent traveller. And with our two new ships for '92 we've the most modern fleet on the channel.



### THE CHOICES

We have the finest range of excellent value motoring holidays in France, Spain and beyond. Plus a tempting range of fares and special offers. From just £68 return for a car + driver.



### THE BROCHURES

For copies of all our great brochures, just phone (0752) 269926 (24 hours). Reservations and enquiries, phone (0752) 221321. Or see your travel agent.

**Brittany Ferries**  
The Channel Line

## COUNTRY PROPERTY

## New homes in the heart of Suffolk

A superb range of homes and some style local locations. Contact us now for full details. You'll find we have just what you're looking for.

Prices from £36,950 to £179,950

CHELSFORD DEVELOPMENTS - WOODS FARM - GRANGE ROAD - PLESHEY - CHELSFORD - ESSEX CM8 1HZ - Tel. (0163) 3751

## LONDON PROPERTY

WANTED!  
SHOW KITCHENS!

We are currently expanding across the country, and we genuinely require a limited number of homeowners - sorry no tenants - to show us their kitchens. All you have to do is obtain your kitchen at a fraction of the true cost, is to allow Arthur Rathbone to show a maximum of 6 potential customers around your kitchen within 3 months. If you genuinely want to modernise your kitchen.

DON'T DELAY - PHONE NOW! 0582 29404  
ASK FOR MARKETING MANAGER CHRIS PLUMMER

*Arthur Rathbone*  
KITCHENS LIMITED

With quotations for finance on request.  
The Old Barn, 2nd fl., 35 Highgate Way, Regent's Street, London NW1 7RG  
ARTHUR RATHBONE  
FIRST FLOOR QUALITY & RELIABILITY.

## SCOTLAND

## 'ENGLEWOLD'

Harlow, near Dunvegan, Isle Of Skye. Charming traditional stone cottage of character located at the head of Loch Bracadale in peaceful surroundings enjoying panoramic views of Cuillin Hills and surrounding country side. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, dining room, 2 beds and bath, full central heating, double glazing, CH. Situated on Strathy Point, Sutherland, commanding panoramic views of the sea, the Firth and The Orkneys. Ideal for shooting and fishing. Offers over £50,000.

For further particulars please contact Anderson, MacArthur & Co. Solicitors and Estate Agents, Somerton Square, Portree, Isle Of Skye. Tel. 0476 2197; Fax: 0476 2451

## SHOPAROUND

## FACTORY SHOP

FOR EXCLUSIVE QUALITY HANDMADE SOFAS, SOFA BEDS, LOUNGE SUITES & DIVAN SETS

Made to measure by craftsmen & women

WE ARE NEVER BEATEN ON QUALITY!!!

WE BEAT EVERYONE ON PRICE!!!  
CHOOSE YOUR FABRIC FROM CUSHION, SEERS AND MANY MORE  
CONTRACT Upholstery and Refurbishment undertaken

## SOFA TO BED

SALE 20% OFF SELECTED STOCK ITEMS  
FACTORY SHOWROOM  
UNIT 1, BAYFORD STREET, EB  
(Off Mare Street & Close to Well St)  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
FREE PARKING

TEL 081-533 0915

PRICE SHATTERING OFFER!

Please don't pay £40, £50, even £90 for other shoes until you have a look, on our 28 days approval, at these

## SPORT 'n' LEISURE RXi SHOES

OUR PRICE ONLY £9.95\*  
+p&p

YES YOU CAN RETURN THE RXi SHOE  
AFTER 28 DAYS FOR A NO TÜSS REFUND  
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE THEM ARE  
✓ BEST VALUE ANYWHERE  
✓ MOST COMFORTABLE  
✓ QUALITY MADE  
✓ SUPERBLY STYLISH

4

FABULOUS  
COLOUR CHOICES

These fabulous RXi Sport 'n' Leisure Shoes are similar in design to trainers, sold in high street sport stores, but without their exorbitant price tags.

Designed for Men or Women they are constructed using high grade materials throughout and will possibly be one of the most comfortable sport and leisure shoes you will ever wear. And they're not just for sports freaks....they are fashionable and ideal for all casual family outings and holiday wear too!

The tough flexible impact absorbing sole helps provide a sure grip while the wrap-around toe helps prevent scuffing and prolongs life. The shaped and fitted sides give maximum heel and ankle support. They come in Men's sizes 6-11, colours Navy with White trim or Grey with Navy trim or Women's sizes 4-8, colours White with Pink trim or Black with Black trim.

Inspect them at home on 28 days approval and if you do not agree that they are super value for money, simply return them unworn for full refund. This does not affect your statutory rights. FULLY GUARANTEED FOR ONE YEAR. Please allow 28 days delivery.

Axiom (Dept 38-27) Harrington Dock, Liverpool L70 1AX Jumbo Trading Ltd T/A Axiom

Telephone Ordering Service  
Access/Visa Card Holders Dial  
**051-708 7777**

quoting Axiom (Dept 38-27) to place your orders between 8.30am-10.00pm weekdays. Also at weekends

8.30am-10.00pm weekdays.

# Fantasy of the secret garden

**Leonic Jameson**  
meets a couple with  
ideas and the  
determination to  
create an  
impressive  
country garden

**S**haun and Camilla Woodward bought their 18th-century Cotswold stone house with 19th-century additions by a pupil of William Morris, finding it to be their home for life. Now they are creating a beautiful, lasting garden.

Mr Woodward, aged 33, who has just resigned as communications director of the Conservative party, and Mrs Woodward, a member of the Sainsbury family, want their home in Gloucestershire to be a complete contrast to their London home.

Mr Woodward admits that he knew little about gardens before they bought the house. Research into local architecture and Morris's Arts and Crafts movement led him into garden design. "Then I discovered that Camilla's grandparents were friends of Rosemary Verey, the garden designer, who lives near here. Now I have a room full of garden books," he says.

Their interior decorator, Dudley Poplak, introduced them to garden designer Christopher Masson, a New Zealander, who has helped the couple to realise what Mr Woodward calls their "inarticulate fantasies".

Mr Masson describes Mr Woodward's approach as meticulous. Mr Woodward, he says, wields a "broad brush with a great feel for gardens" — as is evident in the vast carpet of 5,000 daffodil bulbs she had planted on either side of the old man gate.

She was concerned that their children, Tom, aged three, and Ella, one, should be able to enjoy the garden, so she had a grassy ramp built leading off the croquet lawn for the children to ride down on their bikes, although Mr Masson wanted a matching pair of stone steps.

He says the Woodwards wanted a family garden but with well-defined sections, linked by thematic repetition of details, such as balls of box hedge on the lawns.

Mr Woodward also pressed for a white garden: "I had this fantasy of a secret garden, which you couldn't see out of and which couldn't be seen properly from the house, but would shimmer in the twilight and draw you into it."

The "secret" garden is surrounded by a yew hedge that will eventually grow to about 12ft and is entered through arches of white roses and clematis. An original stone and wood pergola was extended, and a Russian vine replaced by wisteria which, in spring, will create a white tunnel.

In devising a planting plan, Mr Masson says he wanted to introduce more green and avoid too much grey. He prefers clumps of grasses with plumed heads to spreading varieties.

"The planting in the borders is not identical so you do not think, when you've seen one side, that you need not look at the other," he says.

**I**f a house's garden is almost more important than the dwelling itself, then the Garden House, three miles north of Tonbridge, Kent, is aptly named: for a garden lover, this nine-acre domain is excellent both for what it has now, and for its potential. According to the present owner, almost anything grows "like topsy" in the walled garden.

Placed against the south-facing wall of a Victorian walled garden — originally the estate garden, supplying fruit, flowers and vegetables to Dene Park, a nearby Victorian mansion — the house is something of a surprise. It is a dark-stained cedarwood slate Col house, built by local builders of that name in 1958, and not at all in keeping with the low, red-brick Victorian buildings behind. Presumably planning restrictions were less draconian 34 years ago.

It's simplicity — the four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a drawing-room, sitting-room, dining-room and kitchen are all either square or rectangular — belies its roominess and comfort. The drawing-room measures 18 ft by 20 ft and the adjacent sitting room is 20 ft by 12 ft. A carved granite fireplace in the drawing-room is the only notable architectural detail in the interior.

The present owners, who are Swedish, have given their home a distinct atmosphere reminiscent of a rambling holiday house somewhere by an imaginary lake. Much of the interior is painted in pale pastels; the wooden dining-room floor is decorated with a border of scented flowers.

Grandness is not the overriding quality, but there is an air of



Garden with a view to the future: designer Christopher Masson (standing) with Camilla and Shaun Woodward and their children, Ella and Tom, at their Gloucestershire home

But the whole is united by repeated patterns: clumps of white tulips and narcissi in spring, and tulips in summer. One attempt to provide year-round interest with an August and September flowering of Romneya poppies, has temporarily foundered in the heavy soil.

For winter interest he placed yuccas at the base of the pergola. Mr Masson's original design had wooden arches, but Mr Woodward suggested metal ones, crowned with a fleur-de-lis motif which echoes that on original Arts and Crafts metal fencing along one side of the garden. The blacksmith who made the arches was found by Graduate Gardeners, a firm which has done much of the planting.

At the end of the pergola, and linked by steps to the white garden, is Mr Woodward's pet project: a walled organic vegetable garden. The only spray the full-time gardener uses is soap. Mr Woodward says: "I don't take an eccentric view of chemicals, they have their place in industrial production, but I think that food grown without them tastes better." (Mrs Woodward says she has no qualms about spraying the greenery in their London garden.)

There are plans to install Mediterranean plants around the swimming pool and to plant a hazel wood. Huge earthworks are under way to create a terrace with formal topiary. There are also plans for a severe space, "like a jousting field", surrounded by lime trees, a butterfly garden, and a meadow area sown with wild flowers.

The Woodwards say they are restoring the garden to its original state, but in fact they are doing much more than dreamt of 100 years ago," Mr Masson says.

Christopher Masson can be contacted on 071-233 6045. Graduate Gardeners on 0452 770273.

## Skiing to the back door



### HAUTE-SAVOIE

**T**he Chalet Mazot is perched on a wooded mountainside near the pretty, unspoilt alpine town of La Clusaz, in the Haute-Savoie, with access to skiing at 2,600m with 56 ski runs, including three cable cars. This traditional timber-clad chalet is on the market at £60,000, through Alpine Apartments.

Built in stone and wood under a low-pitched slate roof, the two-bedroom chalet is in good condition, with a modern kitchen and bath. It has a large beamed living area, with an open stone fireplace, wooden balconies and superb views over the Petit Bornand valley to the Alps.

The price includes a garage, ski-locker and a small garden. The nearest airport is Geneva, about 45 minutes' drive away.

The area around Lake Annecy in the Haute-Savoie is rustic and unspoilt, scattered with picturesque alpine villages and low-key ski-resorts. Annecy itself is an interesting old city, at the edge of a turquoise lake.

La Clusaz, an old town situated in the Aravis mountains to the east of Annecy, is both a summer and winter resort. There is good skiing, downhill and cross-country in winter, while during the summer months golf, tennis, swimming, riding, rock-climbing, canoeing and hang-gliding are on offer.

Easily reached by plane to Geneva (less than an hour's drive from Annecy) or by high-speed train (TGV) from Paris to Annecy (three and a half hours), the area is becoming popular with British second-home buyers, and tradition-

al alpine chalets are now in short supply. There is little left for less than £60,000, and prices continue to rise.

Property prices vary, depending mainly on location and accessibility to the lake and to ski slopes. The cheapest house on the shores of Lake Annecy is likely to cost at least £150,000. Old village houses, with two or three bedrooms, good views and masses of character, but no garden, cost from £55,000 for anything that is habitable.

Newly built apartments with direct access to skiing cost from

£32,000 for a flat with one bedroom and from £45,000 up to £80,000 for those with two or three bedrooms. But you must expect to pay at least £50,000 for a one-bedroom,

timber-built chalet with skiing to the back door.

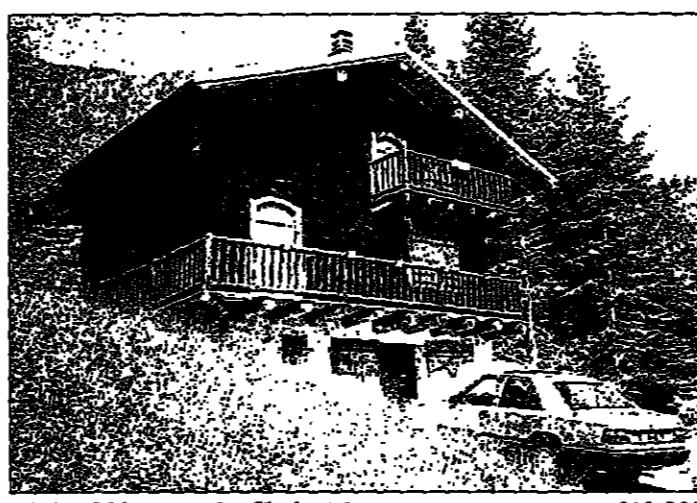
There are a limited number of building plots for sale near La Clusaz with planning permission, mains water, electricity and mountain views, costing from £30,000. A traditional timber-framed chalet, with three or four bedrooms and a double garage, would cost from £100,000 to build, including land.

A rash of French specialist agencies has sprung up in Britain over the past five years. Some are more reputable than others. British agents cannot sell property in France without a full French licence, which very few have. Most work with French agents and share the commission on a 50:50 basis, so the buyer should not be paying any more by using a British agent.

However, some charge an additional fee, which may be difficult to spot if the agent quotes an inclusive price. It is important before agreeing a purchase to ascertain how much commission you are paying and to whom.

**CHERYL TAYLOR**

• Alpine Apartments, Hinton Manor, Eastland, near Leominster, Hereford & Worcester (0544 723 24).

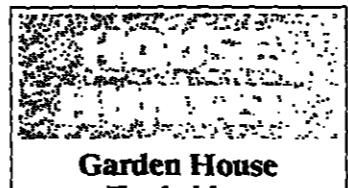


Alpine hideaway: the Chalet Mazot, near Annecy, costs £60,000



Cosy living area with fireplace

## Welcome handful for the green-fingered



### Garden House Tonbridge

fronted by a row of apple and pear trees, dividing the garden while forming an entrance into the second part.

Within the first half, several enormous banks of deep blue lavender bushes allowed the previous owners of the house to sell the fragrant fresh flowers, tied up in posies, to Fortnum & Mason in

reception rooms look south on to the garden. Both the sitting-room and the dining-room have French windows which open on to a terrace with a small, raised fish pond in the shape of a half moon. A maple tree, which turns bright yellow and gold in the autumn, shades part of the terrace.

Down the centre of the garden, much of which is laid with soft lawn, is a small avenue of red rose trees on the left and lavender, poppies and a small box hedge to the right. An expanse of well-mown lawn is flat enough for a good game of croquet.

The avenue continues to a centre point, where two tall yew trees are flanked by neat lines of waist-high privet hedge, which are in turn

lined by old roses, wild roses and miniature roses, flourish, together with hollyhocks, honeysuckle and an abundance of deep and pale pink peonies.

Some of the herbaceous borders

have been allowed to get out of control in a pleasantly chaotic manner — a tidy gardener might frown at the thriving giant thistles or at the vine struggling to survive on the west-facing wall.

Nearer to the house, herbs —

including more lavender — and a

fig tree are grown; the latter is

heavy with green fruit which gradu-

ally ripens during the summer.

Several types of mint can be found,

as well as a large bay tree,

rosemary, thyme and sage, *frasies*

du bois grow everywhere in an old sunken garden.

A large wisteria covers much of the east-facing wall, and further down there is a clematis and two magnolia trees. Peonies, geraniums, lupins and a variety of shrubs grow in the deep border beside the wall. At the halfway point of the garden the border gives way to ranks of raspberry canes, redcurrants and blackcurrants behind the soft fruit. Five varieties of apple and pear trees climb up and along the wall.

The fruit border looks on to what was the kitchen garden but which is now a wilderness of long grass and wild flowers. A few fruit trees, mainly cherry and pear, grow near the rhubarb, by some iron railings

at the end of the garden. The slightly spongy hard tennis court in the opposite corner has two silver green artichoke plants flourishing beside it; the plants are highly productive, and several tiny artichoke heads are now growing in the sun.

To the east side of the walled garden lies a paddock with more fruit trees — with further planting it could be more productive as an orchard. To the west a two- to three-acre cobnut wood produces about two tons of cobnuts (a large type of hazelnut) each autumn. Picking the nuts can be an arduous business, the owner says. In the past, when cobnuts were rare, people would drive from as far as Wales to buy them at the Garden House.

This is a family house and garden first and foremost. At the back of the house there are various outbuildings, garages and stabling for two, as well as a large paddock, providing a good life for horses.

The property includes about

three acres of broadleaf woodland beyond the paddock. This needs thinning but could be the source of a great project for the tree enthusiast.

The asking price is £325,000, but the estate agent believes that the Garden House's value could be increased if a purchaser was eager, energetic and wealthy enough to replace the Col house with something which harmonised more with its surroundings. Otherwise, the new owners might just want to concentrate on their green fingers.

**Heap of the week**  
Regency shell needs love

**CRAKEMARSH** Hall, in Staffordshire, looks beyond saving, but country houses in an almost equally dilapidated state, such as Finned Hall in Northamptonshire, have been successfully reconstructed, so Crakemarsh may find a champion yet.

The crumbling shell can be glimpsed from the new B5030 from Uttoxeter to Alton Towers, just before the great landscaped factory of J.C. Bamford, with its memorable space-invader sculpture made out of digger arms.

Crakemarsh dates from the Regency and was built for Sir Thomas Cotton-Sheppard, who died in 1822. The entrance is on the old road, past an octagonal gate lodge and the recently restored stables, then along a track to the left.

At the south end of the house are the remains of a succo wing, with a three-sided bay on either side, rather like a Soanian villa. This has almost entirely collapsed. Beyond, the two-storey pink brick shell of the entrance front stands without windows or roof. Behind are further wings, all very derelict.

But for the new road, bare 20 yards away, this would be an idyllic spot. In front of the house is a beautiful lake, half lost among the reeds.

**Burnt: Crakemarsh Hall**  
J.C. Bamford bought the house in 1973. It was empty, and the company had plans to turn it into a training centre. But dry rot had taken hold and restoration, estimated at £400,000, was deemed prohibitive.

In 1977 the company offered the house for sale without success. Six years later there was a serious fire. East Staffordshire district council took the view that the most important features were the splendid 17th-century carved wooden staircase incorporated in the Regency house and various mahogany doors. J.C. Bamford confirms that it has these in safe keeping.

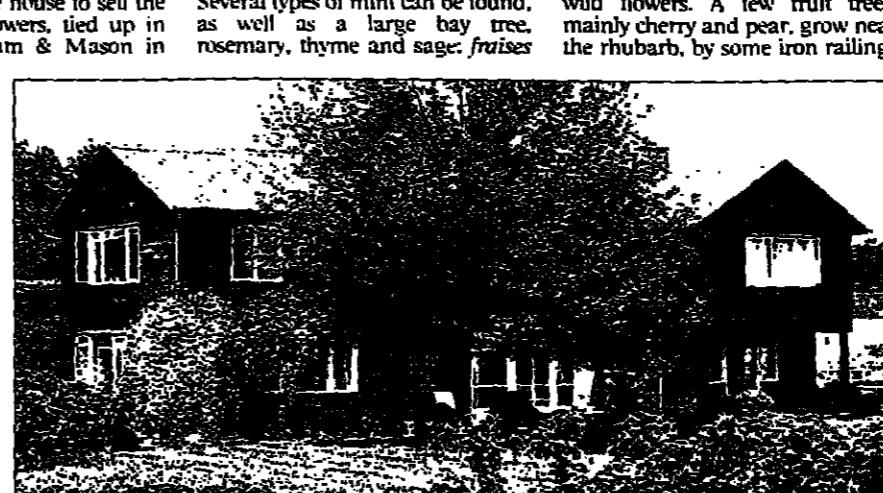
Permission was given to demolish the rest but it was not acted on, although surely not for want of equipment.

There are now new houses discreetly established in the walled garden: J.C. Bamford has itself renovated the stables, while the lake is let to a fishing club.

The company says it will consider any sensible proposition, but it will be a labour of love, best suited to owners able to do a great deal of the building work themselves.

**MARCUS BINNEY**

• For further information contact Michael Hancock at J.C. Bamford on 0889 590312.



Garden of England: as the name implies, the extensive grounds and magnificent planting of the Garden House near Tonbridge, Kent, are its main selling points

**JOANNA GIBBON**  
• Lane Fox, 3 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1AH, 0732 439900

# Small but perfectly daring

A tiny plot need not inhibit the imagination, as Francesca Greenoak discovers in a garden with theatrical flair in west London

**H**ow much difference the external environment makes in garden design. My informal country garden overlooking an orchard, field and woodland would look sloppy in town. Conversely, the jewel-like garden of Anthony Noel in Fulham, west London, is a masterpiece of exquisite artifice and perfectly trained plants, sparkling when the sun pours down between turn-of-the-century houses and high walls, but would look absurdly out of place in the country.

Mr Noel has found his *métier* in garden design, bringing to it artistry and theatricality from earlier training in art, interior design and drama. Customers frame his dramatic, pictorial pen-and-ink garden plans.

For a person so diffident in manner, his designs are surprisingly daring. For small gardens, most of us would think in terms of scaled-down artefacts in proportion to the limited space. This is not the Noel style.

The end of his garden soars in the far corner a huge urn containing a brilliant cream-variegated cordyline is positioned on a raised terrace edged with box. Large stone balls, which would not disgrace an estate ten times the size, cap walls draped with ivies and clematis such as "Etoile Violette".

From a small courtyard the eye sweeps the full length of the stubby L-shape, to a *trompe-l'œil* and open-work gate between ivy-covered pillars, while a tall, narrow frame (an original Noel design) provides scope for the vigorous, white everlasting pea to climb freely without ending up in a muddy knot-work.

There are interlinked themes in the colours and textures: silvery-white helichrysums, dazzling white petunias, grey-green romneya fo-

lage, white valerian growing on the wall. Terracotta pots, striped blue and white, can be seen from indoors, where the sun slants through blue glass vases on to a blue-flowered hydrangea. There are golden hostas "Frances Williams", and an antique rustic seat is painted a smudgy gold-lime, echoing the golden hop covering the opposite wall.

Arranging such a large number of plants in a small space demands skill which brings out both their individual distinctiveness and their contribution to the whole. At this time of year, when plants are growing so vigorously, the garden needs constant revision and management. The pale silvers, whites and pastels dance before the eye, giving an illusion of wider space, especially in the evening when they glimmer through the twilight, and the white flowers of the *Nicotiana sylvestris* release their fragrance.

**I** envy the way water can be introduced for semi-formal effect in a small town garden. On Mr Noel's longest wall, visible from the main windows of the house, a lion's head spout, lurking inside a halo of foliage, pours an arc of water on to a sink of pebbles, in front of which stand perfectly clipped box buns in matching striped terracotta pots.

A rule which applies to any garden is that a tour is better than a simple there-and-back path. Mr Noel's plot, only 40ft by 17ft at its widest, has a paved walk around a velvety lawn with scrolled edges: ten seconds if you are in a hurry, half an hour at least if you want to appreciate the garden.

• Anthony Noel's garden at 177 Fulham Park Gardens, London SW6, opens under the National Gardens Scheme tomorrow and September 20, 2.30-6pm. Adult £1, child free.

Going for growth: Anthony Noel tends his 40ft by 17ft garden, a masterpiece of exquisite artifice

## BEST BUYS

**S**TAKING unruly plants is essential at this time of year when plant growth is at its most luxuriant. Most stakes are unsightly, but Deryk Brown Joinery makes sturdy knob-topped stakes which are decorative and practical — and safer for eyes than sticks. Made of hardwoods from managed forests, the standard size (12mm by 1m) is suitable for a wide range of plants. Set of five £21.50 (including VAT and p&p) from Deryk Brown Joinery, Folkingham Road, Binghamborough, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 0NU.



## WEEKEND TIPS

- Continue to plant leeks for successive crops.
- Trim Leyland cypresses, hawthorn and hornbeam hedges.
- Make weeding a priority if holidays are imminent.
- Summer-prune apple and pear trees, and shorten side-shoots on plum trees.
- Prune philadelphus now that the flowers have faded.
- Keep greenhouses and conservatories well ventilated, even in wet weather.

Decorative: hardwood stakes

## HOME & GARDEN

**NEW**  
AWARD WINNING  
CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE

**IN JUST A FEW DAYS YOUR  
DRIVEWAY COULD LOOK LIKE THIS...**



...OR THIS!

colours to match any surroundings.

However, the real beauty of this new Western Driveways system is that construction can be completed within a matter of days rather than weeks, reducing inconvenience to a minimum.

The resultant sealed surface is very hard wearing and maintenance free. Oil stains simply wash away and weeds become a thing of the past.

Your new Western Driveway will not only enhance the look of your property, but will also add considerably to its value.

For your FREE brochure or a FREE survey and estimate please complete and post the coupon to the address below — there's absolutely no obligation.

**WESTERN  
DRIVEWAYS**

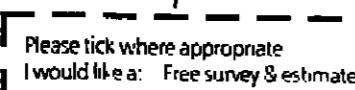


...OR PERHAPS THIS!

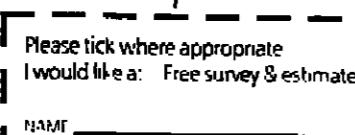
...OR THIS!



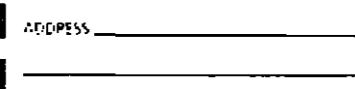
...OR THIS!



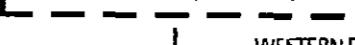
...OR PERHAPS THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!



...OR THIS!





# Parrots, pudding and print ideas

Vinny Lee meets a designer with colourful sources of inspiration

The spidery signature of Georgina von Etzdorf is written across the hem of some of this summer's most desirable printed chiffon shawls. Her name also graces the edge of a luxurious peach and black velvet scarf which will no doubt be the accessory this autumn.

Ms von Etzdorf's distinctive abstract designs and striking combinations of colour appeal to a growing international clientele. Her creations grace the pages of *Vogue* and the shoulders of royalty, but the softly spoken 35-year-old designer remains attached to the less frantic pace of life in Oldstock, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. With her tousled blonde hair and peaches-and-cream complexion, she is an enthusiastic and charmingly modest representative of her company, not at all a diva of design.

What makes her work so distinctive is her passion for colour. "I have an instinctive feeling for colour, I am constantly aware of it," she says. "As I talk to you I'm deciding what shades and tones suit you. I like to guide people towards the colours and designs I think they should wear."

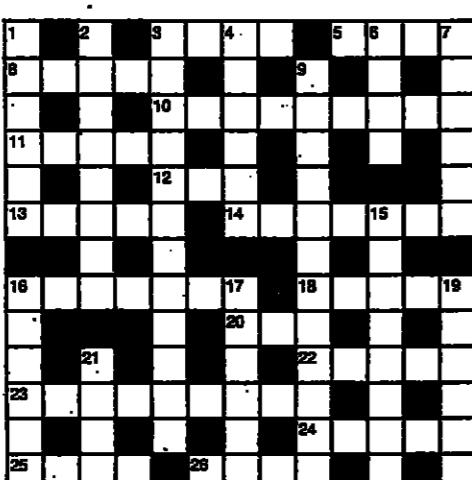
She believes people respond to colour. "It can change your mood and evoke memories. Combinations of shades can remind you of a view, a landscape or something you have eaten. One design in the summer's collection combined shades of cream, green flecks and a velvety brown. After we printed the material, I realised that the colours were inspired by a wonderful pudding a friend had made. I hadn't realised I was committing the colours to memory."

Ms von Etzdorf's love of colour can be traced to her childhood. She explains: "We lived in Peru until I was five years old and my memories of those years are of the bright colours and the amazing light. At that time I had two pet parrots, Pedro and Orlando. They have provided the inspiration for one of the designs in the new autumn collection.

"I love mixing colours — light and dark, bold and bright. I feel it is important to vary the tones as well as the colours because too many of the same shade cancel out the effect."

Telephone 071 481 4000

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2838



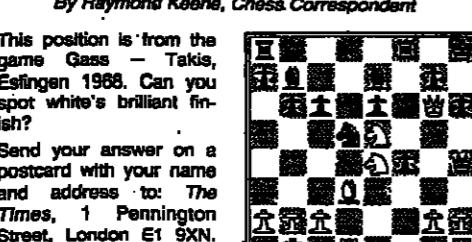
26 Wearing shoes (4)

ACROSS  
3 Roads split (4)  
5 Pet parasite (4)  
8 Edible animal innards (5)  
10 Worshipper's donations (9)  
11 1,000 dollars (5)  
12 Pursue (3)  
13 Lament for dead (5)  
14 Gourmet (7)  
16 Energetic (7)  
18 Surpass (5)  
20 As well as (3)  
22 Wind-deposited particles (5)  
23 Barcelona region (9)  
24 Lake Malawi (5)  
25 Close by (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2837  
ACROSS: 1 Elects 5 Cliff 8 UFO 9 Odd man 10 Aye 11 Asia 12 In the end 14 Ashore 15 Crafty 16 Last call 18 Amen 19 Bistro 21 Water 22 Vast 23 Table 24 Knight  
DOWN: 2 Judas 3 Ignorant 3 Come about 4 Sunrise 5 Goat 6 King 7 Flying the flag 13 El Alamein 15 Cold War 17 Above 20 Tub

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Gasse — Takis, Esslingen 1968. Can you spot white's brilliant finish?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a Batsford chess book. The answer and the winners will be printed in *The Times* on the following Saturday.

## THE TIMES

### RENTALS

LOOKING TO RENT OR WANT TO RENT YOUR PROPERTY? RENTALS APPEAR EVERY WEDNESDAY

TO ADVERTISE PHONE

SIAN PRICE  
071-481 1986 071-481 4000



Rhyming tones: Georgina von Etzdorf's early years spent in South America stimulated her passion for bright, contrasting colours

The von Etzdorf style of design does not belong to any formal discipline. "I have a free approach to designing," she says. "It comes from my time as a student at Camberwell Art School. We were encouraged to try and test and learn for ourselves. In many ways it was a great advantage because I was never told that this colour works with that and that shape should be put with this."

"As well as being visually pleasing I like our shawls, scarves, shirts and waistcoats to feel good to touch. I feel that our fabrics should appeal to all the senses. That is why we print on fine silks, rich velvet pile and cashmere and wool mixes."

The autumn/winter 1992 Georgina von Etzdorf collection, to be launched on August 1, is called "Rhyme and Reason". The title comes from a poem by Edmund Spenser: "I was promised on a time/To have reason from my rhyme/From that time unto this

season/I received nor rhyme nor reason."

The "rhyme" elements of the collection are rich figurative designs such as the one featuring the parrots. "Reason" is represented by simple geometric and abstract shapes. The attraction of opposites appeals to Ms von Etzdorf. "Like sweet and sour, hot and cold, experiencing one makes you appreciate the other," she says.

In the years since Georgina von Etzdorf scarves and ties were first

printed, the business has grown. Offices, printing workshops, studios and the packaging department have moved to a large converted barn. The setting and exterior may be rural but the business is a thriving international affair, with more than 70 per cent of sales exported to Italy, France, America, Germany and growing markets in Japan and Spain. In fact business is going so well that they have outgrown the barn and are looking for new premises.

"We're not going to expand too far," Ms von Etzdorf says. "It is important that we remain at a size where we can experiment with printing techniques.

"We would also like to stay in the area. We're well known around here. We have teams of excellent out-workers who hand-finish the scarves and make ties and waistcoats. We also sponsor the local carnival raft race and we enjoy being part of the community."

Ms von Etzdorf not only creates with watercolours on her drawing board in the studio, she also creates good food in her kitchen. "I love cooking and entertaining," she says, "and when I say entertaining I don't just mean providing food for my guests. I like to sing, and if I hadn't been a designer I'd probably have tried to become an actress."

● *Rhyme and Reason?, Georgina von Etzdorf's autumn/winter 1992 collection, will be on sale from August 1 from Georgina von Etzdorf, 149 Sloane Street, London SW1, and 41 Burlington Arcade, London W1; March Price, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Polymnia, Barnsley; Image, Bath; Trott, Cambridge. For other stockists ring 071-823 5638.*

# Bike fans still fire on all cylinders

The market for old motorcycles is back in the enthusiasts' hands as prices fall

You can buy a picture to put on the wall, or a car to put in the garage to show your friends, "but a motorcycle is a滴ing, oily thing and the only way to enjoy it is to get on it and ride it". So says motorcycle enthusiast, collector and dealer Brian Vernal. Mr Vernal, who acts as an adviser to the motorcycle enthusiasts Christie's, has been selling old motorcycles from his showroom in Tooting, south London, for more than 30 years. The gleaming chrome and immaculate paintwork of the machines — ranging from a quaint 1889 Dennis "Speed-king" tricycle to racy Nortons and Triumphs from the 1950s and 1960s — is peculiarly seductive. It is easy to understand the wide appeal of collecting motorcycles and why membership of the Vintage Motorcycle Club has risen to more than 11,000.

According to a new exhibition at

NATIONAL MOTOR MUSEUM



Dream on wheels: the 1961 Triumph Tigress

the Design Museum, "Base Over Ape: The Decline of the British Motorcycle Industry", one of the main reasons for the success of Japanese marques — and the decline of the British classics — was that the Japanese bikes were so much more reliable.

However, although reliability is undoubtedly important in a new vehicle, people who collect old ones never mention it — in fact, they almost give the impression that a bike that did not need a certain amount of coaxing and cajoling would be a little disappointing.

For the enthusiast, a highly desirable old motorcycle is one which is in excellent repair, with no parts replaced from another model, make or era. If it has an original number plate and log book, all the better.

The perfect old motorcycle, however, is of course the one the collectorusted after at the age of 16 but just could not afford.

JULIA THRIFT

● *Base Over Ape: The Decline of the British Motorcycle Industry, Design Museum, Budds Wharf, London SE1, July 14 to November 8.*

Telephone 071 782 7827

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FOR SALE

### RENTALS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

is still  
cylinder

SATURDAY JULY 11 1992

## SUNDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

### BBC1

6.45 Open University (3138554) 8.50 Haydays (r) (G143270)  
9.10 News and Weather (6011251) 9.15 Morning Worship from St Albans' Church in Macclesfield (s) (7521305)  
10.00 Sign Extrac: Wish you Were Here. A report on how the environment will need to be protected from tourism (r) (39638)  
10.30 Great Expectations. Heather and her mother discuss whether women get as much out of the education system as they put into it (r) (74658)  
11.00 Bazaar. Domestic ideas series (r) (2927473)  
11.25 Experiment. How to print on a leaf (3126831)  
11.30 Langollen '92. Highlights of the week's events from the International Musical Eisteddfod at Langollen (2989299)  
12.05 The Flintstones. Stone-age cartoon fun (r) (3138933)  
12.30 Country File. John Craven reports on the fight to preserve Naseby Waterfall, Northants (2995096). Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 Weather (7011251)  
1.00 News (2338554) 1.10 On the Record. Political issues with Jonathan Dimbleby and John Cole (6508657)  
2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition (r) (Ceefax) (s) (BD367)  
3.00 Eldorado (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8386)  
3.30 8.40 Charing Cross Road.

• CHOICE: It was unlikely enough as a stage play and even more unlikely as a film. The raw material was a correspondence between Helen Hunt, an extrovert New York writer, and Frank Doel, a dutiful London bookseller, during the post-war austerity. He sent her rare books, she cheered him up with food parcels. Their relationship became a sort of love affair, though they never met. Given the task of filming what seemed to be an unfilmable director, David Jones steered a shrewd middle way, making the story flow while resisting the temptation to open it out. The central characters are precisely located in the cities they inhabit, affluent Manhattan and drab London, and are superbly played by Anne Bancroft and Anthony Hopkins. The film is modest, gentle and amusing, virtues rarely associated with the cinema these days. (Ceefax) (189725)

5.05 After Dark. Julian Petrie introduces viewers' complaints and opinions on Gardening, Women and Eastenders. (Ceefax) (7309589)

5.50 Masterchef 1992. Andrew Nairn editor of The Sunday Times, and restaurateur Alastair Little join Gordon in his quest to find Britain's top amateur chef. (Ceefax) (636725)

6.25 News with Chris Lowe. Weather (624366)

6.40 Titchmarsh on Song. Alan Titchmarsh continues his nationwide musical pilgrimage. He meets Cliff Richard and Mary O'Hara who help him explore electronic songs of praise. (Ceefax) (s) (8822699)

7.15 Strathblair: Past and Present. The penultimate episode of the Scottish drama series set in the 1950s. Flora receives a formal proposal of marriage from Andrew. (Ceefax) (s) (545376)



Seduced by an illicit passion: Jason Donovan (8.05pm)

8.05 Shadows of the Heart. Jason Donovan shrugs off his coat of many colours to star in this mini-series about forbidden love on a remote island. The first of two parts. (Ceefax) (70461725)

9.40 News with Mervyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather (655657)

9.55 Porridge. Five-star prison comedy by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais (r) (Ceefax) (270980)

10.25 Heart of the Matter.

• CHOICE: Joan Bakewell investigates the claims of church-based counselling services to offer a "cure" to gay Christians who feel uneasy about their sexual orientation. The argument of the "gay movement" is twofold. Homosexuality is a sin, condemned by the Bible, and therefore incompatible with the Christian faith. Secondly, since homosexuality is not inherently bad, but caused by arrested emotional development, it is a condition that can be treated and even reversed. As Bakewell reports, both of these points are highly contentious. Critics of ex-gay ministries say they are using the Bible to give legitimacy to their personal dislike of homosexuals. On the other hand there is no more convinced proponent of conversion than a Baptist minister whose son, a gay Christian, committed suicide at 27. (2986595)

11.00 Knight and Daye. American comedy series (9611183)

11.25 The Perfect English Village. Nigel Farrel's search takes him to the most unlikely location (r) (457980) 12.20am Weather (9149416)

### SATELLITE

14.30 The Sunday Times: These were the Days (54629)  
14.30 Travel Destinations (471023) 12.30pm  
Financial Times Business Weekly (56145)  
1.30 Target (591183) 2.30 Roving Report (48102) 3.30 The Lords (64367) 4.30 The  
People's Voice (7011251) 5.30 The Sunday Times (70121) 6.30 Running the Country (727829) 9.05 Looking Again at Large Samples (1484893) 9.30 The Leather Collection (5721371) 9.55 Science: Fires of Life (2686560) 10.20 Age and Identity (7476561) 11.10  
Open Forum (9149102) 11.35 Kenyan Small Farmer (3908651)  
12.00 Regional Westminster Programmes (89550). Northern Ireland  
Greenfingers: Wales: Scrutin

12.30 Sunday Grandstand introduced by Steve Rider from Silverstone. The line-up is subject to alteration: 12.30 Motor Racing: a preview of the British Grand Prix; live coverage of the race from Silverstone; 3.50 Formula 1: round ten of the championship; 4.30 Athletics: a feature on Britain's two athletics stars, Chris and Sally Gunnell; 4.30 Yachting: an introduction to the British Olympic team as they sail at the Ultra 30 Grand Prix Series. With Bob Fisher (1077725); 5.20 Golf: a preview of the British open championship which starts at Muirfield on Thursday.

5.45 Film: Watership Down (1978). Sir Michael Hordern narrates this animated version of Richard Adams' parable about the epic journey of a group of rabbits seeking a safe place to live. With the voices of John Hurt, Richard Briers, Ralph Richardson and others and featuring Art Garfunkel's song "Bright Eyes". Directed by Martin Rosen (981386)

7.15 Life on Earth: The Rise of the Mammals. David Attenborough looks at why the reptiles of 200 million years ago changed into mammals (r). (Ceefax)

7.30 The Sunday Times: Battle of Britain (727744)

8.10 A Day Out.

• CHOICE: An Alan Bennett retrospective which runs until August 30 includes the Talking Heads monologues as well as several longer pieces. Originally screened in 1972, A Day Out was Bennett's first television play and embodies the whimsical, amused and slightly melancholic observation of northern working-class life which became his hallmark. On a Sunday in 1971 Yorkshire mill workers take to their bikes and ride to Fountains Abbey where they have a picnic, play cricket and pursue the local girls. The gentle nostalgia is given a sharp edge by an epigraph set in November 1919. David Waller, John Nortington and James Cossar stand out in a fine ensemble cast and the director is Stephen Frears, a frequent Bennett collaborator now better known for cinema films such as My Beautiful Laundrette and The Grifters (412015)

9.05 British Grand Prix: Highlights of today's race from Silverstone (904945)

9.40 Film: Escape from New York (1981). Kurt Russell stars in this futuristic tale as a former war-hero-turned-convoi who is offered a pardon if he can rescue the United States President from a maximum security prison. A tall story is handled with flair by director John (Holloway) Carpenter (111367)

11.20 The Night Stalker. Darren McGavin stars as an investigative reporter interested in the supernatural (456251). Ends at 12.15am

12.30 The Fourth War (1990). Post-Cold War thriller starring Roy Scheider (18936)

1.00 Framed (1990). Comedy set against the canvas of the art world (561199)

1.30 The Wind in the Willows (1990). The classic children's story starring Peter Sallis (1727251)

2.15 The Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

2.15 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

12.20 The 1974 World Cup (1974) Special of secret agent 007 (465271)

4.15 Old Gringo (1989). Mexican revolution adventure starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits (204723)

4.30 The Last Dragon (1985). Martial arts meet Snow White: Animatrix (1920541)

4.30 Adam Had Four Sons (1941). b/w. A French governess takes care of a bereaved family (194541)

4.30 The Starwoman (1964). Black comedy starring Peter Sellers (1727251)

12.20 Captain Johnnie Australian children's series (4686533)

